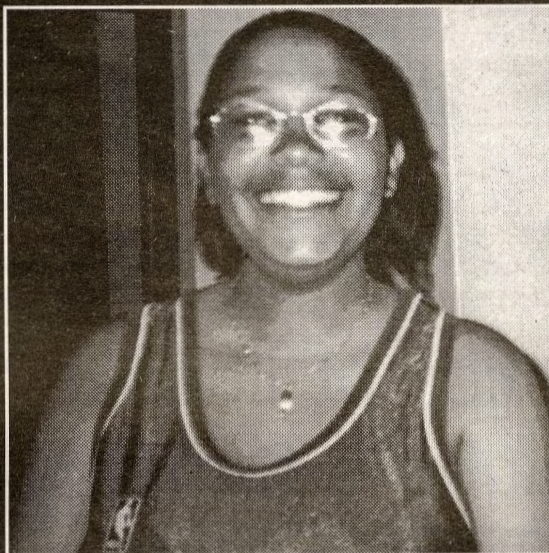


# activate

Independent Student Newspaper

Edition 4 – 7 May 2003



Boitumelo Saphira Manyadioane  
1981 – 2003

**B**oitumelo Manyadioane, known as Tumi by her friends, will always be remembered for her unique personality, bubbly character and loyal friendship.

She always had a smile on her face and loved having a good time. She was more than just a sub-warden and a journalist, she was a friend – someone you could go to with all your problems, someone always willing to listen.

It was impossible not to love Tumi. The news of her sudden and tragic death came as a devastating shock. Campus is not just shaken by the untimely death of such a charismatic young woman; we all mourn the loss of Tumi – our fellow Rhodent, leader and irreplaceable friend.

Twenty-two-year-old Tumi came from Springs in Gauteng and was a popular sub-warden of Olive Schreiner. She was a hard-

working third year journalism student who had such high hopes and dreams for herself. She was going to go far.

She was found stabbed to death in her res room late Sunday night by fellow sub-wardens. Her ex-boyfriend, also a student, was found unconscious in her room with multiple stab wounds. According to the police, he is a suspect in the case.

The alarm was raised at midnight after Tumi failed to lock the front doors of the res as part of her sub-wardening duties. When another sub-warden got no response from Tumi's room, she used her master key to enter. Tumi, who was lying on her bed, had no pulse. Her ex-boyfriend was lying on the floor breathing but unconscious.

The warden alerted Campus Protection Unit, the police and the ambulance service. Tumi's ex-boyfriend was taken to

Settlers Hospital in Grahamstown and later transferred to Livingstone Hospital in Port Elizabeth. At the time of going to print, he was in a stable condition and under police guard.

At no stage during the evening did Tumi's neighbours in Olive Schreiner hear any commotion.

Dr David Woods, Rhodes' Vice-Chancellor, has expressed his shock and dismay at the senseless act of violence.

"The entire Rhodes community has been shocked to the core by this murder and my deepest sympathies go to her friends and loved ones."

Dr Woods has suspended the male student from the University pending an investigation.

At a meeting with Olive Schreiner girls on Monday 5 May, Dr Woods said, "I stress that there was no way that anyone could

have stopped this tragic incident from occurring. I encourage you all not to feel guilty or blame yourselves in any way."

He also said that the incident did not happen because of any lack of security in the residence. Tumi's ex-boyfriend was legally signed in as a visitor. He urged all students to tell their parents as well as the public that Rhodes University residences are still safe. It was not a break-in as incorrectly reported by earlier media reports.

A memorial service will be held on Thursday 8 May at 14:00 at the Rhodes Chapel by St Peter's Lawns. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Tumi, you were truly an exceptional human being. We will all miss your infectious smile, your refreshing sense of humour and enviable zest for life. Most of all, we will miss you.

Hamba kahle, Boitumelo.

• Due to recent events, coverage of the e-mail problems on campus as well as future plans for ResNet has been dropped.

## NEWS

A letter from Asisipho's family.



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## FEATURE

Rhodes plans to increase numbers of black students.



pg 8

## JUST SAY KNOW

The High Society revolution.



pg 9

## PICTURES

Thanks for your help!



pg 14

**S**egregation is a thing of the past. Nowadays, it's the norm to 'mix' and anyone who thinks otherwise is branded a racist and a menace to society. So we go to school with children of other races, shop at the same shopping malls, use the same public transport and eat in the same restaurants.

We are all one people and deserve equal dignity and respect as everyone else. So when the government pushes affirmative action programmes and expects previously white-only institutions to integrate, it is usually done. Those who disagree either leave the country or sit back quietly and accept the situation.

Every year, more and more 'previously disadvantaged individuals' are awarded opportunities previously denied to them in the past.

Here on campus, we study the same courses, eat in the same dining halls and sleep in the same residences. But does integration necessarily mean harmony? How well have we actually integrated?

Race is still very much an issue and it is naïve to think otherwise. The statements uttered by some students on campus hit home for us: "I didn't get into Journ 2 because the department had to let a certain number of black students through. It is so unfair just because I am not dark enough!"

"I will not bother applying for that job – they're only going to give it to a black person!"

"Don't even bother trying to get a waitressing job in Grahamstown – they only hire white girls. If you're lucky, they'll put you in the kitchen."

We already have our own feelings about the 'other' race. It is the case of 'us' and 'them'. We greet each other in lectures or in group gatherings because we have to, really.

In our dining halls, the 'other' is clearly defined. You get the black students' table in the corner and the white students' table in the middle. In the far right is the Indian table and over there is the Coloured table. Every person has and knows his own place and automatically slots into it – no questions asked. It is just the way things are done in our dining halls.

At night we leave our rooms and make haste to CJs (if you're black) and the Rat (if you're white) – I know there is no hard and fast rule, but let's be honest with ourselves. It is that simple.

Some students say there is no black-white issue on campus. They hang out with a mixed race of friends and claim to not care what colour a person is. That's good to hear, it is the way the world should be. Wouldn't life be great if we all lived in their ideal world?

Until this happens, comments like this will continue to be said.

"Coconut! He's always hanging out with white people. Someone should tell him he is not white!"

And it is not just black students who are 'viscously attacked'. White students are also jeered at for 'trying to be black' if there can ever be such a thing.

Why is race still an issue? How old were most of us in 1994? Could it still be that we're trying to get over the effects of apartheid? Can we ever really get over apartheid? Do we really want to?



**Editorial 05**  
Haru Mutasa - Editor

# Free State students angry about net restrictions

by Lesley Odendal

**S**tudents at the University of the Free State are outraged at the restrictions that have been placed on the amount of megabytes that they can download. From June onwards, each student will only be allowed to use 10 megabytes per month when using the internet. For every extra megabyte used, R2 will be charged to the student's account. The restriction does not at all apply to storage space.

One angry student, Sofonea Shale said, "There is absolutely no way some of us can cope with the study workloads without Internet, in fact it is the core of our learning."

Another student, who wishes to remain unnamed said, "Not only are our computer labs

only open during office hours and closed during the weekends, but now they limit how much we can use the internet. 10 megs a month is nothing for a varsity student."

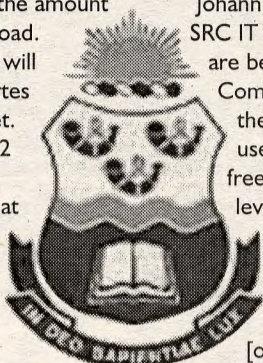
Johann van Eck, the University of Free State's SRC IT Consultant, said that the restrictions are being implemented by the university's Computer Services Department because they wanted to provide students with the use of the Internet for academic purposes free of charge, as there is no standard IT-levy charged to students. By applying the restrictions, they hope to inhibit students from using the internet for leisure purposes alone.

Van Eck said, "The volume of use [of the Internet on campus] really slows down Internet usage. This makes the internet used by academic staff and students a time consuming, frustrating experience. The restriction is there to speed up Internet usage by 'forcing'

students to use the free Internet for academic purposes only."

Many students complained that the decision was taken very suddenly, without giving students enough warning. Van Eck assures that although the decision was taken abruptly, measures have been taken to make students aware of the limit. A pop-up screen, warning students of the restriction has been made and posters have been put up at the different computer labs and around campus. All students with a university e-mail address were e-mailed and students whose cellphone numbers were on the database were sent a SMS about the computer restrictions.

Students who foresee that they will need downloads in excess of the restriction can apply in writing for extra megabytes to the SRC. Computer Services is hoping to increase the 10 megabyte restriction to a 50 megabyte restriction for all students in the future. ■



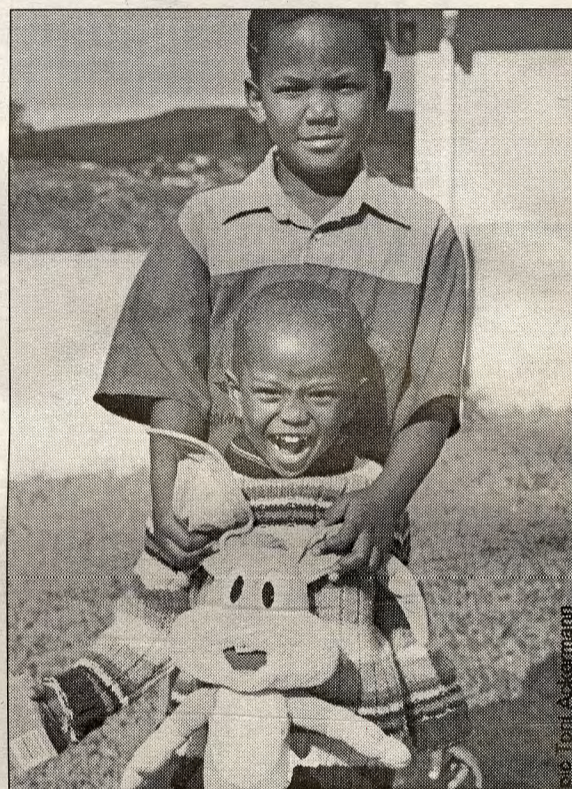
## A letter of thanks from Asisipho's family

We were in the deep sea, but you all managed to save us. Thank you to Charmaine Avery for her thought of fundraising, as we were not going to cope with all the costs. That is what friends are for. You were always there when needed, God bless you. To Dr Motara, your support, caring and contribution to the fundraising was really appreciated. Thank you to Marvicks – Thomas and Aunt Mary; to Evolution staff – I am glad that my sister is working with such caring people; Mrs Pillay – you are a wonderful manager and are always there for your staff, without you around I would not have coped. Mrs Ball and Michelle Burger, thank you for helping Charmaine.

Thank you to wardens, students, catering staff, housekeeping staff and all university staff. Thank you to Kate Steward for everything you did, our friendship has come a long way. Thank you to all our colleagues – your phone calls, prayers and support made us realise that we were not alone, especially on the day of the operation. It proves that you cannot be a person on your own.

To the students who organised the car wash – you had better things to do that Saturday but because you are caring you decided to go out there and do something to help our little boy. Thank you, River of Life Group, from the Assembly of God Church, who came and prayed in our house to give us hope that God is always there if you believe in Him. Thank you also to Mrs Mpehlo, Anthon, Judy etc. To Dr Lloyd and Partners, thank you for always being there for us. Thank you to Rhodes journalists. Thank you to all the Grahamstown and Eastern Cape people who supported us, it proves that you cannot be a person on your own. And finally to my family and friends, thank you, without you we are nothing.

Mavis and Baba Mnyungula, Asisipho's mother and father



YAY: Asi plays with a toy left at the RMR offices.



**YOUR ASSISTANCE STILL NEEDED:** Help those less fortunate than you. Donate old clothes, non-perishable foods, blankets and/or cash. Leave your donations at the SRC Office.

**-SPECIAL-**

*Mike's*

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**It's about being up-to-date.**

Inter**activate**



**MANGLED:** On 26 April at 17:50 a car crashed into the Drosty Arch after speeding down High Street and failing to stop at the intersection. The man, who was travelling alone at the time of the accident, suffered a severe concussion and was taken to Settlers Hospital. Sergeant Milanda Coetzer of the Grahamstown branch of the South African Police Service stated that there were no signs that the man had been under the influence of alcohol. The Drosty Arch, a national monument, was left virtually undamaged.

pic: Linda Schonknecht

## Plastic shopping bags no longer free

by Jacqueline Lazic and Natasha Boddy

The South African government is cracking down on environmental pollution. From 9 May shoppers will either

have to bring their own bags when shopping or buy plastic packets from stores.

Stores violating the new regulation can receive fines of up to R100 000 and/or one year in prison

on the first offence, followed by possible imprisonment for up to 10 years on subsequent convictions.

Valli Moosa, Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, said the harshness of the penalties

demonstrates the government's desire to send a tough message, which shows the start of a broader look at waste management.

The primary focus of this legislation, which falls under the Environment Conservation Act, is to reduce the contamination and degradation of the natural environment.

According to the Act, it will be achieved through restricting the production of non-reusable plastic bags and the unnecessary use of excessive amounts of disposable thin plastic film for packaging.

The managers of PepperGrove SuperSpar and Checkers Grahamstown are already complying with government stipulations regarding the free distribution and thickness of plastic bags.

Customers at both stores will have to purchase bags with a significantly increased thickness of 80 micrometers, at a government subsidised price.

Amid fears that this will harm the plastics industry, Jerome Cobb, sales manager at Checkers, confirms that the same suppliers will produce the store's new heavy-duty plastic bags.

However, PepperGrove SuperSpar manager Jon Campbell feels that it is important to get involved in this community based project to clean up the environment and motivate customers to reuse plastic bags. SuperSpar hopes to achieve this through the sale of multi-use baskets as well as Spar product cloth bags and eco-sensitive bags, which customers can purchase from the store.

Campbell said that although shoppers' habits may change slightly because of the new regulation, in the long run, it will be a very effective law.

### Letters

Comment on any issues that you have read about in *Activate* — send your letters to the Editor for publication: g01m0259@campus.ru.ac.za

What differentiates this oddball little campus from other places is that it's situated in the heart of the country's most impoverished province.

Grahamstown is a setting for incredibly stark contrasts and rather embarrassing contradictions. While Rhodes University serves as a cushy blanket for keeping one safe and oblivious to the rest of the world, it also places one in precariously close proximity to real poverty and suffering. Those who accidentally venture beyond the common room couch onto the pavement of High Street or even further to, like hey, Joza, might find themselves learning more than a thing or two about the world beyond the realm of campus.

Not quite fitting under the little blanket that covers a few thousand students — with their cheese and wines, laughter and routine dissing of dining hall food — is a massive township of about 100 000 people.

In a way, this incomprehensible imbalance of resources has the potential to harden otherwise loving and fairly easy-going people. One learns how to steel one's heart, look at a tiny, mucous-streaked face and offer the indifferent reply: No, I don't have any money. Then turning to a friend and muttering:

You never know what they're going to do with it anyway, before stepping into the Rat, only to proceed with the tiresome exercise of drinking away the better half of one's allowance.

Does anyone else have trouble reconciling these worlds?

It's not as though violent crime is rife here. Mostly, people steal. Who hasn't had a digsmate or friend's wardrobe emptied by a washing-line shopper? Or arrived home after the vac, only to find that half the electrical appliances have grown legs? And when the same person knocks at the front door asking for bread eight times a week, a message sort of begins to filter through — people are poor.

We sometimes lose sight of the big picture. We get lost in the revelry of student life and fail our courses, costing the government and others who have invested in us thousands in wasted resources.

When faced with the challenge of bringing about change, it is easy to say: What difference will my little bit make? Yet it takes only one person to serve as an inspiration for others to follow, and when a number of individuals make even the smallest contribution, enormous change can be effected.

If all the people in China were to jump up and down simultaneously, they could quite easily send the earth out of orbit — at the very least they would make a very loud sound.

It's the same smooth, nonchalant reasoning that allowed us to let racism slip by for so long, ingrained patriarchy within our social structures has made us turn a blind eye to the world around us.

For fear of sounding like a blocked drain, a stuck record or a feverish banshee, I'll shut up now.



**Anti-Apathetica**  
Jane Cruywagen

<http://activate.soc.ru.ac.za>

InterActivate

# CSD keeping government's promises

by Magriet Cruywagen

The Centre for Social Development (CSD) is playing an active role in the implementation of the Child Support Grant in Grahamstown and the surrounding areas.

The central focus of Finance Minister Trevor Manuel's budget speech, delivered on 26 February 2003, was poverty alleviation and the development and support of vulnerable groups such as the elderly, the disabled and children.

One way in which the government aims to uplift one of these vulnerable groups is through the Child Support Grant.

Diane Hornby, director of the CSD, said that in theory, the government has taken a big step towards increased social development and

upliftment for people living in poverty.

However, very little of the allocated funds are reaching the people for which they are meant.

To register for the Child Support Grant, an individual has to have an identification document and a birth certificate, which many people who are living in rural, low income areas do not have.

Therefore, before any registration for the actual grant can start, people first have to apply for the other necessary documentation. Obstacles such as a lack of transport services or money to pay for public transport prevent many people from applying.

The CSD initiated their current involvement when they realised that the people living in the communities that they work in are not reaping the benefits of the Child Support Grant. The

centre approached the Department for Social Development and the Department of Home Affairs, and a project was launched at the beginning of this year to ensure that people living in underprivileged areas have identification documents and birth certificates for their children and start receiving the child support grant on a monthly basis.

Joyce Teyise is directly involved in the project and is part of a team that goes to the communities where people need to register and undertakes the whole process, including ID photos.

The actual registration for the Child Support Grant is more of a follow-up process.

Currently, they are registering about 47 to 60 people successfully per day, and in doing so ensure that an awareness of the grant is created in the communities where they work. ■

## Goodbye hangovers

by Staff Reporter

A new type of beer, which will not give you a hangover the next morning, will soon be commercially produced in Grahamstown.

Garth Cambray, one of the owners of Makana Meadery said, "You can drink all you want and sober up quite quickly too, good news for most people I should think. We are very excited and should start producing for commercial use by the end of next month."

Last month, Makana Meadery was finally given the go-ahead from Bisho to produce Iqhilika, the 20 000 year old South African traditional beer. Iqhilika is believed to date back to the ancestors of the Khoisan and ancient Xhosa people.

"This new type of Iqhilika we are producing has been designed to keep pace with today's times," said Cambray, "Our mead is clearer than the original traditional version and purified so there is no yeast sludge. It is also slightly lighter in colour. We hope this will make it more attractive to the consumer."

Iqhilika, still produced in some outlying communities in the Eastern Cape, is traditionally fermented from pure honey, roots from the weed-like plant imoela (only found in the Eastern Cape) and pollen collected from bees. The pollen is collected from 4 500 species of flowering plants within the Albany region of the Eastern Cape.

According to the Makana Meadery, the taste of Iqhilika is dry, with a crisp smooth feel that leaves the mouth feeling clean and the throat pleasantly warm. It contains 14% ethanol and no measurable contaminant alcohols.

This means that true to its traditional reputation, it will not cause a hangover. ■

## Fuming residents fed up with noisy New street

by Matthew Ackermann and Michael de Vries

Grahamstown residents have threatened to have the City Council close down clubs in Grahamstown if the noise issue is not urgently addressed.

Residents said that the clubs, namely CJs, Friar Tucks, Pop Art and The Rat, are in a residential area and students must understand

that there are some people who do not appreciate noise in the early hours of the morning.

SRC president James Chipunza, said it is not students who make the most noise.

"The SRC suggested that council push for heavier police patrols on 'problem nights'. The police will then see that most of the noise coming from the street is made by actual locals of Grahamstown and

not students."

Steps have been taken to ease the noise problem. Spotlights have been placed at the front of CJs in order to discourage reckless behaviour and soundproofing has been added to the back where the building borders the residential area.

The sound system has also been toned down and student cards are requested at the door to imple-

ment some control.

The Grahamstown Police force has increased the number of patrols in the area, particularly on Wednesday and Friday nights.

Their main concern is the safety of the students and other residents.

A second residential meeting will be held on 29 May to discuss the progress made in addressing this matter. ■

## BYM road show visits Rhodes

by Marissa Baard (courtesy University of Stellenbosch)

A team from Stellenbosch University are on campus until Thursday 8 May to promote the prestigious annual conference, Brightest Young Minds.

Brightest Young Minds will be held at Joburg's 'miracle university' CIDA City Campus, and will run from 29 June to 5 July. The main sponsors of the event include Sanlam, BHP Billiton, Shoprite Checkers and Microsoft. Delegates chosen for this conference will be given the opportunity to network with corporates and other like minded individuals - 'Fast Tracking you into an exciting career start'.

If you are a dynamic, creative final-year or post-graduate student in any field of study, pick up an application form during the roadshow, apply online at [brains@bym.co.za](mailto:brains@bym.co.za) or contact AIESEC Stellenbosch directly at 021-883 2416. Applications close 22 May. For more information, visit [www.bym.co.za](http://www.bym.co.za) ■

(ym)<sup>B</sup>

## Incorporation of Rhodes EL put on hold

The date for the legal incorporation of Rhodes East London into the University of Fort Hare, initially set for 1 April and then moved to 1 July 2003, will now take place on 1 January 2004.

This was done to ensure staff at EL campus had full and legal representation on the Fort Hare decision-making structures. Dr David Woods, Vice Chancellor, assures everyone that the legal incorporation will definitely occur on 1 January 2004 and has asked the Department of Education to appoint a State Attorney to proceed with the legal details. Until then Rhodes EL remains part of Rhodes. ■



## Reader calls on Rycroft to issue a public apology

Dear Editor

This letter has been submitted in order to make a public complaint concerning an SRC official who we feel has abused his position of leadership and authority.

The incident, to which we refer, concerns a comment made by the said member at the SRC forum which was held on 27 March 2003. After being asked a question by a fellow student, James Rycroft responded in a sarcastic, overbearing, offhand and arrogant manner.

We were both offended by his comment. The position held by James Rycroft is to be used to the benefit of the student body and not as a sounding board for his own ego. Not only was this student embarrassed and the question not answered, but the office of the treasurer - indeed, the entire SRC - was brought into disrepute by James Rycroft's actions. We feel that 1) James Rycroft be dealt with by appropriate procedure within the SRC, and 2) he launch a public apology to the parties concerned, i.e. to the student body, the SRC and the student in question.

We suggest that James Rycroft make use of this same publication to publish his apology, as we feel *Activate* is most accessible to all parties concerned.

Sincerely,  
Kerry-Lee Campbell and Craig Thompson

Dear Editor

Thank you for your invitation to respond to the allegations made by Ms Campbell and Mr Thompson.

Obviously, as an elected member of the SRC, I would and have taken offence to allegations of abuse of my 'position of leadership and authority'.

It must be noted that especially in the light of my 'sarcastic, overbearing and arrogant manner', the reason for my address at the Student Forum was not intended as a 'sounding board for my ego', but rather to report and to be held accountable for the R40 000

Orientation Week budgetary deficit.

In terms of the specific comment in question, the person to whom the comment was directed is the head of

one of campus' most active societies, and furthermore, a person who is familiar with SRC fiscal policy.

The response was prompted by a question regarding whether or not one could access cash from a society's account without the stipulated receipt/invoice as proof of

expenditure.

One would be inclined to feel that

the question was perhaps not meant in the most serious manner but rather an instance of 'chancing one's arm'.

It must also be noted that after the meeting, I engaged the person in question about the society's weekly activities in an attempt to ascertain whether I could provide any assistance or advice - in my typically 'arrogant and overbearing manner' - as my elected capacity as SRC treasurer.

In closing, I am inclined to think that this entire situation could have been avoided had Ms Campbell and Mr Thompson engaged me on the matter directly, as a number of other concerned voters have done, instead of demanding a public reprimand and apology without being fully aware of the relative circumstances.

Yours truly,  
James Rycroft

## Matter of fact

The writer of the 'State of the Union' opinion piece published in the last edition of *Activate* was unhappy with the manner in which his article was subbed. *Activate* regrets any inconvenience caused. To avoid similar incidents from occurring in the future non-*Activate* members will be called in and have their work checked/subbed in front of them. Therefore please include your contact details on any work you submit for publishing.

FOR SALE: 1993 White Ford Laser - excellent condition. 2003 Roadworthy certificate Transvaal car: 103 000 km. Price: R25 000. To view please phone 082 881-8851

# LETTERS

## What about G-town hip hop?

Dear Editor, firstly I would like to thank you for the full page spread attempt to highlight local hip hop culture in *Activate* Edition 3 (26 March 2003) entitled 'Taking hip hop back to Africa'. It was refreshing to see an article that attempted to highlight the emergence of hip hop culture in South African society. I would, however, like to point out a major shortfall of the article:

The writer failed to mention the fact that there is a thriving hip hop scene right here in Grahamstown! This local hip hop scene has been alive for at least 10 years and consists of both students and local Grahamstown talent-doing it for themselves-using hip hop as the boundless form of expression it is to tackle the everyday issues of living in South Africa and specifically in Grahamstown.

Most noteworthy products of the local hip hop scene include the recording last year of a live radio album called 'Chillin with TNG Vol 1: The Show' on our very own campus radio station and the holding of monthly b-boy forums within the town that aim to spread the reach of all aspects of hip hop culture beyond the music.

There have also been a number of quality recordings made at local recording studios by

local artists (ever heard of Mandrakz, Second Son or Def Boyz?) that would rival any big city acts that the writer seemed so hell-bent on promoting (ever heard of 'G-Town Hip Hop Volume 1'?), not to mention uplifting performances at various Fireside Jams and even at the National Arts Festival.

Is it because they are local that they don't deserve even a mention in an article that 'purports' to report on the state of local hip hop? As a matter of fact, with a little bit of research, one would have found that the winner of last years battle of the year in Joburg (an MC named Zubz) is a Rhodes graduate and recorded some of his best stuff right here in Grahamstown.

Another major point of concern is the implication that Rhodes Music Radio only plays 'Ja-Rule types' or 'next-big-thing' rappers. Any reader would think that RMR was just concerned with commercial hip hop. In actual fact, the truth of the matter is that RMR promotes the so-called "intelligent, well-written and introspective" MCs more than any other big name radio stations.

If the relevant 'journalist' had done adequate research, he would have discovered that there are at least two shows on RMR every week

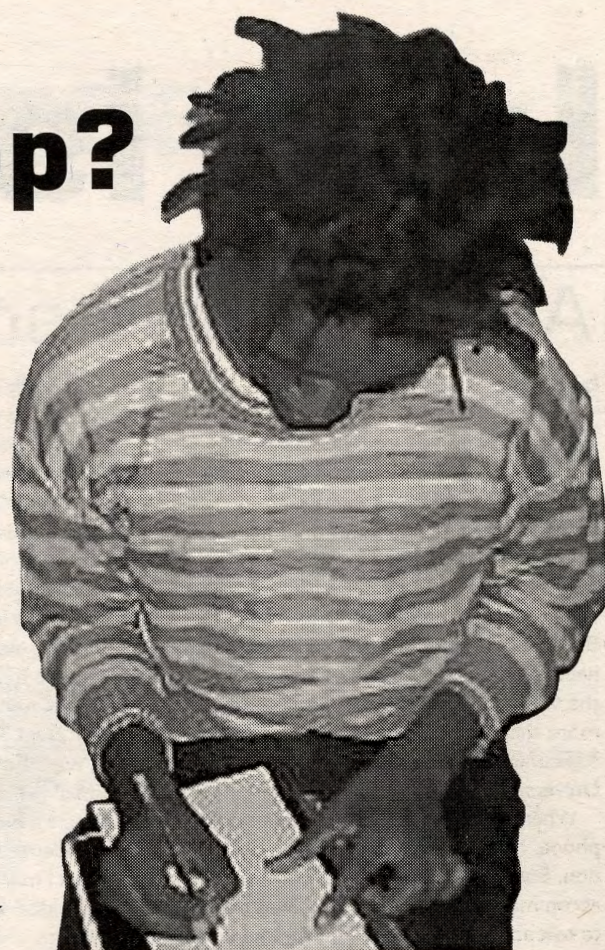
(ever heard of 'The HipHocalypse' or 'Beats and Pieces?') that play non-commercial hip hop and seek to promote an awareness and growth within the Grahamstown community through 'real' hip hop music and culture.

They address issues such as race relations, gender (both with female hosts) and current affairs through the music. It would seem to me that the writer did not even bother to look at an RMR programming roster or consult the authorities or indeed any person in the know to find out more about hip hop on our campus radio station. Such sweeping statements as the one made about RMR undermined the credibility of what would have been a refreshing article before one got to the third paragraph.

In conclusion, look locally and you will find that some of the best talent is right under your noses – and that's 'Taking hip hop back to Africa'!

"Sensai" Tate Makurumidze (Economics honours student and co-host of the HipHocalypse Show)

• Visit a local hip hop website, created last year by JMS New Media student Daniel Sello Leshope, at <http://nml.ru.ac.za/2002/nms/sello/intro.html> and sample local talent.



LYRICAL: Local MC Mandrakz scripting rhymes before a live battle on Rhodes Music Radio.

## UPB: Students respond with their opinion

Dear Editor

Please consider this letter as totally unofficial. I work at Incredible Books as the assistant manager and when I read your article on UPB, I thought, "About time!" I know all too well the problems and inconsistencies in book pricing. Most of the time, publishers do set the selling price and then a previously negotiated discount is granted to the bookseller. This amounts to the mark up.

The selling price is by no means set in stone, and the bookseller is at liberty to charge whatever he/she wants. Being part of a large chain store, we are bound to keep our prices consistent, but I think these prices are still pretty competitive.

This brings me to my reason for writing. Now that the story has made Grocott's Mail (the big time), I think I should let you know that UPB does not have a monopoly on academic books at all. I am puzzled as to why

we were never consulted as to our book-selling principles – when I can guarantee a better price on any book that UPB can supply. Being part of a large chain, we can command better discounts from publishers and we already offer 10% off any books to students. Admittedly, books do take quite a while to arrive after being ordered, but no longer than it takes UPB. We also don't offer accounts, so all purchases are cash ones.

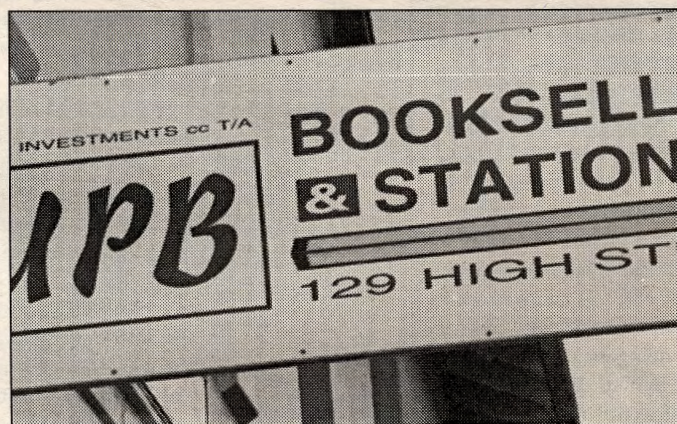
The only example I can make is the book quoted in Grocott's, *The 10 Theories Of Human Nature*, as being sold at UPB for R330, still pretty pricey, but we sell it for R270. I am willing to bet that we can find similar differences on all our books.

Until now we have felt it perhaps unfair (I know, not very business like to be nice) that we should try to compete with UPB, but if students are unhappy, they should come and see what we can offer. I am not quite

sure why they don't already – lacking of advertising perhaps?

From my point of view at least, we are here to sell books – not to make money (Head Office would disagree). I think UPB could meet our prices if they chose to, and if they knew students had an alternative.

Thanks for reading this,  
Spearman Toast



Dear UPB

(I address you via this publication, because it seems to be the only forum willing to take a stand)

What horror! Finally, a group of people has been willing to speak out against the ridiculous monopoly you hold in this town.

For a business that deals in books – and by proxy, a version of truth and literary honesty – you've reacted like cowards.

God bless your legal rights to quash any statements that might hinder the bottom line, and the gods of blindness bless your ability to read so narrowly between the lines.

I noticed that the writer of the article that raised your hackles so high made a point of illustrating the costs and overheads involved in running your business, but you blatantly ignored that paragraph when you attacked *Activate*.

Perhaps I'm next to be sued, for daring to express an opinion.

That *Activate*'s article was well researched and exceptionally well-written makes little difference to you.

I urge all students to boycott UPB now that textbook season is well and truly over.

Don't let the fact that you can put things on account become a store's only selling point: head down to Incredible Books or make friends with people who might be willing to sell you old textbooks.

Really, give UPB the finger as only students can, and let them know that their ridiculous propriety over the book business will not be tolerated.

Yours,  
Natasha Joseph

## ResNet vs fishpond

Dear Editor

I write to you in connection with Jane Cruywagen's column, *Anti-Apathetica*, in the 26 March edition of *Activate*. I do realize that it is an opinion column, and the high journalistic standards that apply to factual stories apply more loosely to such pieces. However, when writing about ResNet, the least she could have done is try to find out some details about it before blasting Rhodes!

As far as I understand matters, ResNet is not an officially-funded-by-Rhodes project. It is funded by money generated from other projects that the IT Division is involved in. The money that students pay this year towards ResNet goes towards helping ResNet out next year – and it thus makes a lot of sense to wire up the residences with the greatest demand for ResNet. To the

best of my knowledge, the more profitable residences have historically been male ones.

Had Ms Cruywagen talked to any ResNet representative at all, or bothered to visit the IT Director, who has a fairly open-door policy, she could have avoided looking a bit silly in the eyes of those who know.

Furthermore, I personally don't feel that her column has done any good at all to the ResNet cause: the IT Director is doing this almost entirely because he is a nice person, and is taking a lot of flak because of it from both students and staff!

I would ask Ms Cruywagen to try to find out something about this subject the next time she writes to avoid future blunders of this magnitude.

Yours,  
Yusuf Motara

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# Iraq is still the issue

## Our own Iraq

### A tale of two soldiers

by Wayne Ma

**H**ow do you interview someone who has just been through a terrible tragedy? The question raced through my mind last month as I phoned Bruce Hedenskog, the spokesman and uncle of Sholto Hedenskog's family. For those unaware, Sholto was one of 12 British Royal Marines killed last March in a helicopter crash during the first stages of the war in Iraq. However, Sholto was more than just a Marine – he was a South African and a graduate of Rhodes University.

When Bruce Hedenskog answered the phone, I braced myself for a chilly reception. But fortunately, he was more than accommodating. Sholto's uncle was eager to talk about his nephew and the memories they had shared together.

I listened intently as he gave me the details about Sholto's life – from his childhood years in Pretoria to his recent military assignment in Afghanistan. Bruce explained that Sholto regarded the British Royal Marines as the cream of the crop, and it was his lifelong dream to serve as an officer with distinction.

"Imagine yourself running around in the mountains with a 40-pound pack on your back, a steel helmet and a rifle in your hand, chasing a chap with a caftan and sandals through the mountains," Sholto would say, when asked to describe his service in Afghanistan.

The 26-year-old frequently chose to see the humorous side of things and often gave little anecdotes about his experiences.

"In Afghanistan, he remarked that it was great to hitch rides with American vehicles because they would always be watching portable DVDs and videos in the back," his uncle said, "And while the British ate bully beef and dog biscuits, he couldn't get over the fact that the Americans would bring in ice-cream and Coke machines!"

While Sholto never brought the horrors of war home to his family, he was someone who understood the world crisis. The poverty he saw in Afghanistan was eye opening, and he never stopped to express his amazement at the resolve of the Afghani people. At the end of the day, Sholto knew it was about saving people.

"We were all proud of Sholto, of what he was doing," Bruce told me, "And while some of the papers have tried to put a political spin on things, Sholto was really apolitical. In fact, he found politicians quite amusing."

Did Sholto believe in what he was doing? Was his family for or against the war? Did they hold any blame or bitterness towards his death? These were the questions on everyone's mind when it happened.

Although Sholto's death was an acci-

dent, his family never thought for a second that it was a waste. They knew it wasn't for Sholto to decide whether or not his assignments were 'right' or 'wrong'. As a Marine, he accepted his duty to his country first, regardless of any reservations he might have had. Sholto did what he was trained for, and he died doing what he loved.

Later that week, I spoke to Professor Jay O'Keefe, head of the Institute for Water Research at Rhodes University. O'Keefe's son Tom, a Grahamstown native, was also serving with the British Royal Marines in Iraq.

"I have a tremendous sense of pride and confidence in him," O'Keefe told me, "Although I'm a bit biased, if I had to design an ideal son – which doesn't mean he's perfect – he's exactly who I would've liked to have."

The two of us spoke for an hour about Tom and the path he took to become a full-fledged Marine. O'Keefe expressed some reservations about the war, but ultimately understood why his son was fighting.

"I don't understand really what this war is about. It doesn't seem to be about weapons of mass destruction or Iraq being a threat to the world...and at a global scale, there's one way I think about the war," O'Keefe said, "But at a Tom scale, I completely support him and hope things are safe and sound."

For O'Keefe, waiting for news was the hardest part.

"The last time we heard from Tom was 10 days before the war began," O'Keefe said, "Since then, there's been a total blackout in communication."

By the end of the interview, a strange feeling came over me. The war was suddenly personalized when I learned more about Tom and his relationship with his father. For a single moment, I could feel what it was like to be in his shoes – worried but proud of what his son was doing. A few weeks later, I was relieved to hear that his son was doing well.

"I heard from Tom 10 days ago; he was great and in good spirits. He told me he was dropped by helicopter into the oil fields and was later in the presidential palace for a few days," O'Keefe told me. "It was a big relief to hear from him, but I was pretty sure he was OK – we would have heard otherwise."

Unfortunately, the end of the war doesn't provide much closure to the Hedenskog family – the loss and grief of Sholto's death will still be there. Only time and the support of others will likely heal those wounds.

But while one soldier was laid to rest, another will live to embrace the future. And while a family grieves, another will soon rejoice. The major part of the conflict is over, but the impact it has on others will linger on. ■

by Matthew Wilhelm-Solomon

**T**he war in Iraq is over. In a month or two, all thoughts of it will have drifted and dispersed like leaves into the autumnal pastures of our collective amnesia. Life will resume its perpetual momentum and monotony. Details of post-war 'reconstruction' and 'democratisation' will slowly disappear from the world's headlines into the back pages of newspapers and our lives. Our interest in Iraq will perhaps last while the hunt for Hussein continues to provide intrigue, but more likely than not, he will disappear like bin Laden (the US seems to be particularly good at turning their enemies into phantoms and turning phantoms into their enemies). Does anyone remember Afghanistan? The details of politics are not something that particularly interest most of us. We will wait for a new war, like toddlers waiting for the next episode of 'Teletubbies'.

A strange event occurred last term. On a Monday evening, hundreds of students along with lecturers gathered to hear some of Rhodes's finest lecturers speak out against the war on Iraq. The event stands out for me as unique in my

time here at Rhodes. Students crowded the venue, sitting squashed in the isles. The air was crackling with excitement and body heat. There wasn't even any cheese and wine on offer.

Julian Cobbing, mordant and mesmerising, equated the present US administration with that of the Nazis in the 1930's. Tony Fluxman, perhaps the last outpost of the Jewish post-Marxist intelligentsia at Rhodes, spoke about neo-colonialism and oil. All the speeches were strong and distinctive, though the details have quickly faded in my memory. Passions were inflamed. Students and lecturers alike made assertive self-righteous proclamations about the need for being active in resisting the war. There was heated argument.

It was comforting to see this. To see voices raised and signs of genuine outrage for an issue other than the cover charge at Pop Art. However, what irks me is how transparently we are victims of our times. We are provoked to outrage by the very mechanisms which the corporate excesses have created to justify and perpetuate this war. Our passions and interests are aroused by spectacle, by images, by media events.

We feel passionate about the war in Iraq and about the injustices of globalisation and yet enactments of these processes on a local level are normal and mundane – barely worthy of mention. We will eagerly read about children in Iraq who have had their arms blown off and about hospitals filled with innocent victims. Yet how many of us have the slightest interest in South African hospitals that are increasingly filled with victims of tuberculosis and Aids? What

actions are we taking to help the rising number of orphans in this country? We rage on about the US, but live like Americans. The sickness and suffering around us is probably not so different from what has taken place in Iraq – in fact, it is probably far worse.

That is what is so sickening about George W Bush. It is not just that he is a vulgar, moronic, power-hungry fool, but that he is also our vulgar, moronic, power-hungry fool. He is the mirror image of us or at least many of us. Let us mock him, degrade him, hate him; but also know that these insults and criticisms must also be levelled against us.

However, retreating into paralysing self-loathing helps no one. Last term's evening on Iraq clearly showed that there is a profound need amongst many Rhodes students to express their outrage at the world we live in. The need for social justice is still alive and present in this country and in this university. It is the channel to focus these feelings and passions that is notably absent.

It is the condition of our generation to be caught in a symbolic vacuum. In South Africa, the symbols of the anti-apartheid struggle have become degraded and abused by the new political elite. Globally, the spirit of Marxism casts a pall over the shattered remnants of the radical left. The sites where the new domains of struggle will take place remain unclear. The need for a radical, political, economic and spiritual revival seems pressing, but how or where this will take place is uncertain.

The war and the actions of the US regime seem to actively inspire the progression of a worldwide moral movement against the excesses of corporate driven power. Perhaps we are seeing the beginning of a global, yet assorted, civil society movement that may serve as an essential counterbalance to the corporate driven uni-polar world order. However, the problem with this way of thinking is that it dislodges one from their immediate physical environment.

A retreat into abstraction provides no real answers. The passion and outrage latent in us must be channelled into the society in which we live. How does this happen? Perhaps we begin with simple acts of memory. Let us remember the strangeness, awfulness and beauty of this town we live in. If the place we live in is infinitely richer and more intriguing than anything we can access through the media, doesn't that provide a compulsion for discussion and passionate engagement?

Let us remember death – the underlying premise of the war in Iraq and of so much human activity. Our society is obsessed with death, yet it is always veiled or mediated. It is everywhere – yet its voice is muffled. This is because its voice is not the sound of missiles or planes blaring from our television screens. Its voice is the sound of children, alone in the night, speaking to themselves in a language we cannot understand. ■

**"That's what's so sickening about George W Bush. It is not just that he is a vulgar, moronic, power-hungry fool, but that he is our vulgar, moronic, power-hungry fool."**

### Talking Heads 05

by Linda Schonknecht  
pics Linda Schonknecht

Refunds for meals are now limited to just over R900 per semester. This means that any students who unbook all their breakfasts stand to lose out. *Activate* chatted to students around campus and asked them what they thought about the meal refund limit.

Edition 4 2003



"It's a money making scheme by Motara. It's our money – we should be reimbursed."

(Bianca, 2nd year Bjourner)

“ “ 1



"No man, that sucks. I got more than that [meal refund] last year."

(Noelle, 3rd year BA)

“ “ 2



pic Zachary Wales

ANGRY: Protestors from PAGAD burn an American flag while waving Iraqi flags in Cape Town recently.



"It's not really a big issue in my life, they can't reimburse everyone, just eat your meals dammit."

(Pippa, 2nd year BJourn)

“ 3



"I don't see it as a major problem, there are worse things in life to worry about."

(Eric, 2nd year BComm)

“ 4



"Its a load of bullshit! There's no way that they are spending that money on me, it goes to everyone else – that's what's unfair."

(Hayley, 1st year BComm)

“ 5



PRO-ACTIVE: More needs to be done to increase racial representation at Rhodes.

# More black students needed

by Gary Howes

**A**ffirmative action at Rhodes. Is the University going to go down the same rocky road as the rest of the country and integrate more black students based on the past injustices of the apartheid system?

Yes and no is the answer. At the moment it does seem like a strict plan of affirmative action is going to take place within Rhodes University policy. A definite issue, however, is what those at the top like to refer to as an, 'equity challenge'. Dr Moosa Motara, Rhodes' Dean of Students, describes the equity challenge as being a broad policy that over the course of the next few years will aim to increase the number of black students enrolled at the University at a sustainable rate.

At the moment, Motara believes that the University is doing too little in terms of increasing the numbers of black students – especially those that were previously disadvantaged. "We need to go out more proactively and attract people from rural and disadvantaged areas. We need to be seen doing this, and we are not doing it so energetically at the moment."

In 2002, Rhodes had a white population of 52.7%, a black population of 35.9%, a coloured population of 4%, and an Asian population of 7.4%. Rhodes can thus be considered an 'under-represented' university, according to the Ministry of Education. The report also shows that 57% of students at the University are female. This is obviously a positive factor for the University's image.

Keeping in mind that Motara is of the view that the University is not doing enough to accommodate more black students, it is interesting to note that in their Institutional Plan Report to the Ministry of Education, the University said: "The enrollment patterns of the four

main population groups is changing steadily at Rhodes as the proportions of Asians and Whites decline and that of Blacks, increases." The number of Black and Coloured students has increased by 4.4% since 2000.

This figure of 4.4% must be looked at within the context of the University's expansion of about 2% per year. According to the Registrar, Dr Stephen Fourie, the University has grown only by 1.2% from last year. The University is unlikely to grow by any phenomenal amount in the future either, as Fourie points out that it is very expensive to expand. It cost the University R35 million to build the new dining hall and four new residences in Nelson Mandela Hall and after all this, only 250 extra beds were added. Fourie believes that it will take at least three years to fully pay for the construction.

While the report submitted to the Ministry of Education may paint a bright picture of the steps being taken to meet the equity challenge, a 4.4% increase in black students over the past three years seems like a small increase.

Dr Ian L'Ange, Deputy Dean of Students, is able to shed some light on why the University finds it so difficult to meet the equity challenge. According to L'Ange, the main reason that there are so many white students at the University is due to the fact that historically, the University draws its students from a traditional base of 'feeder' schools. There are ties that exist between Rhodes and various high schools and L'Ange believes that the University has to widen its connections, especially in the rural Eastern Cape, in order to increase the enrolment of black students.

While all this big talk is being put forward by the authorities at the top of the institution, what is happening in the student body?

Let's look to the SRC. Sadly, they appear to be far behind in terms of effectively dealing with the issue of equity. Thami Sibisi, SRC representative for transformation, explains that at the moment, the SRC is not ready to put forward any policy on transformation – his predecessors have left him little to work with.

Sibisi is working on it though and is putting into motion plans to carry out a major survey to assess the thoughts of the student body on the whole transformation issue. From here, the SRC can effectively deal with equity, particularly by influencing the way clubs and societies operate on campus.

Sibisi also puts forward an interesting point; while it appears that a lot of attention is being paid to getting the student demographics right, what about the senior staff at the University?

"I believe that this is an area that is not being looked at enough, it is important to reform the leadership of the University while reforming the

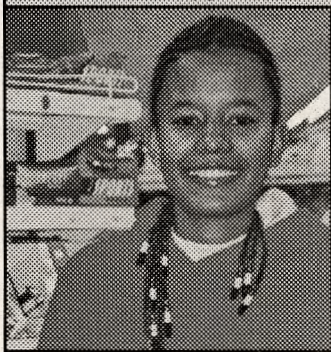
student body," Sibisi says. A good point, considering that within the report put forward to the Ministry of Education, there is absolutely no talk of reforming the senior staff demographics.

The demographics of the University will not take a complete turn around. The student population will not shoot from 5 000 to 10 000 in the short space of five years, and we are not likely to merge with any other universities.

In the climate of a changing South Africa, it appears that modest Rhodes University with its small student population of around 5 300 is not about to face any cataclysmic changes. ■

**"Motara believes that the administration is doing too little to increase the numbers of black students at Rhodes."**

Continued from pg 7>



"As long as I get the money, I don't give a damn."

(Merica, BA Law)

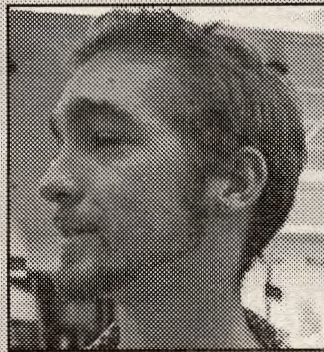
“ 6



"Our parents pay for it [meals] and if you aren't using it, you should get a refund."

(Musiwa, 1st year BComm)

“ 7



"Bull, you pay – so why shouldn't you keep it [meal money]?"

(Greg, BA Drama Hons)

“ 8

## who moved my politician?

gal.co.za, south africa's largest student website, is proud to announce another bestselling, cheesy game...

once, long ago in a land far away, there lived hundreds of little politicians who ran through a maze looking for gravy to nourish them and make them happy. some of them were rats, and some were little people-beings who behaved like rats but looked and acted like a lot of people today. they had many names: some were called bantu, some were called thabo, some were called tony.

every day, these little politicians spent time in the maze looking for their own special cheese...(read: gravy). the maze was a labyrinth of corridors and chambers, and there were often dark corners and blind alleys leading nowhere. it was an easy place for anyone to get lost.

eventually, in their own way, all the little politicians discovered what they were looking for - they found their own kind of gravy at the end of one of the corridors in gravy station c. every morning after that, the politicians dressed in their suits and headed over to station c. it wasn't long before they each established their own routine. each little politician settled down to a comfortable life, complete with subsidised houses and declared gifts. some of them drew little pictures on the wall that made them smile. one of these pictures read: 'having gravy makes you happy'.

every night, the little politicians would waddle home, full of gravy, and every morning they would confidently return for more. until one day, some of the little politicians arrived at station c to discover it was empty of other little politicians. at first they just stood there waiting - expecting the gravy to appear. they waited and waited, but the station remained empty.

"who moved my politician?" hollered bantu.

finally, he put his hands on his hips, his face turned red, and he screamed at the top of his voice, "it's not fair!"

his behaviour may not have been very attractive or productive, but it was understandable.

well, to even the odds a little, gal.co.za has decided to give bantu and his little friends the chance to get their politicians (and their gravy) back...all you have to do is play 'who moved my politician?', online at [www.gal.co.za](http://www.gal.co.za). the aim of the game is to fire flaming balls at parliamentarians who try to cross the floor - and save the constitution. action figures include trevor manuel, thabo mbeki, tony 'the tiger' leon and patricia de lille. get there: [www.gal.co.za](http://www.gal.co.za)



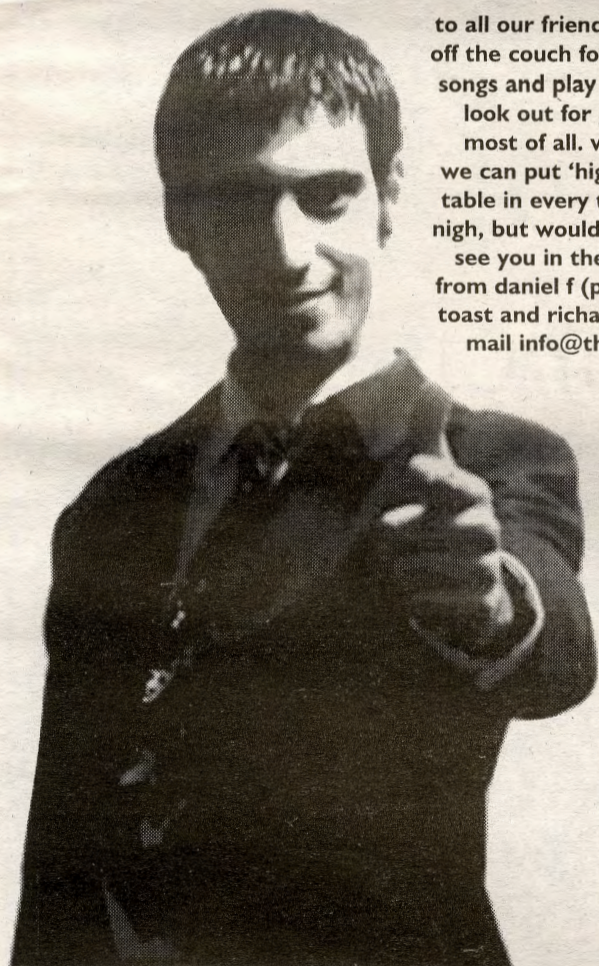
## the revolution of high society is nigh

to all our friends and die-hard fans. correction, to all our friends. we love you and we are proud to announce that the band 'high society' has got its arse off the couch for long enough to establish a web page. the url is [www.thehighsociety.co.za](http://www.thehighsociety.co.za), so check it out and feel free to comment. also, download the songs and play them to everybody you meet, whether they are in the mood or not. the site is still a baby, but it's growing.

look out for gigs on the gig page and come see us for a time that is good.

most of all, we need you (though not in a desperate kind of way). together we can put 'high society' on the cover of every magazine on every table in every town, including stilfontein. the revolution is nigh, but would you give your life to high society?

see you in the stars, mother f...ers.  
from daniel f (pictured left), spearman  
toast and richard iii - any queries,  
mail [info@thehighsociety.co.za](mailto:info@thehighsociety.co.za)



## freshest music on the planet

Catch the brand new ABSA RMR Top 30 every Saturday at 4pm. Exclusive to Rhodes Music Radio, this show promises to keep your Saturday afternoons full of excitement as the Top 30 entertains you with the freshest music on the planet.

The ABSA RMR Top 30 team, headed by hosts Minz and Ntswambu will countdown the freshest tracks - including some singles that other stations haven't even heard of! Included in this 180-minute ride into hit radio is a look at international charts from the US and UK.

World news, local news and sport news is also provided on the show, with bulletins in Sesotho, English and Afrikaans.

The ABSA RMR Top 30 profiles a weekly artist, with everyone from Limp Bizkit to Michael Jackson, the Nude Girls to M'Du being featured on past shows. You also stand a chance to win on the ABSA RMR Top 30 - our studio lines will be open every Saturday afternoon for you to win huge prizes on the show - call us: 046-622 8605.

The all new, all fresh ABSA RMR Top 30 - Saturdays. 4-7pm. Exclusive to 89.7fm stereo - Rhodes Music Radio.

# Brand new 'heavies'

by Verashni Pillay

**W**ith the raging anti-war and virtually synonymous anti-American sentiment doing the rounds, perhaps there is a valid reason why we should curb the excesses of our consumption of American products. Why did the Americans really bomb Iraq? It is a question that has been very much evaded recently. When the proposed weapons of mass destruction failed to turn up, the war became 'Operation Iraqi Freedom' with statements from the Pentagon that this was the first in a series of attempts to bring democracy to all oppressed countries.

If you strip the BS from that statement, it would appear that Bush and his cohorts are out to make the world an American-corporate-friendly place.

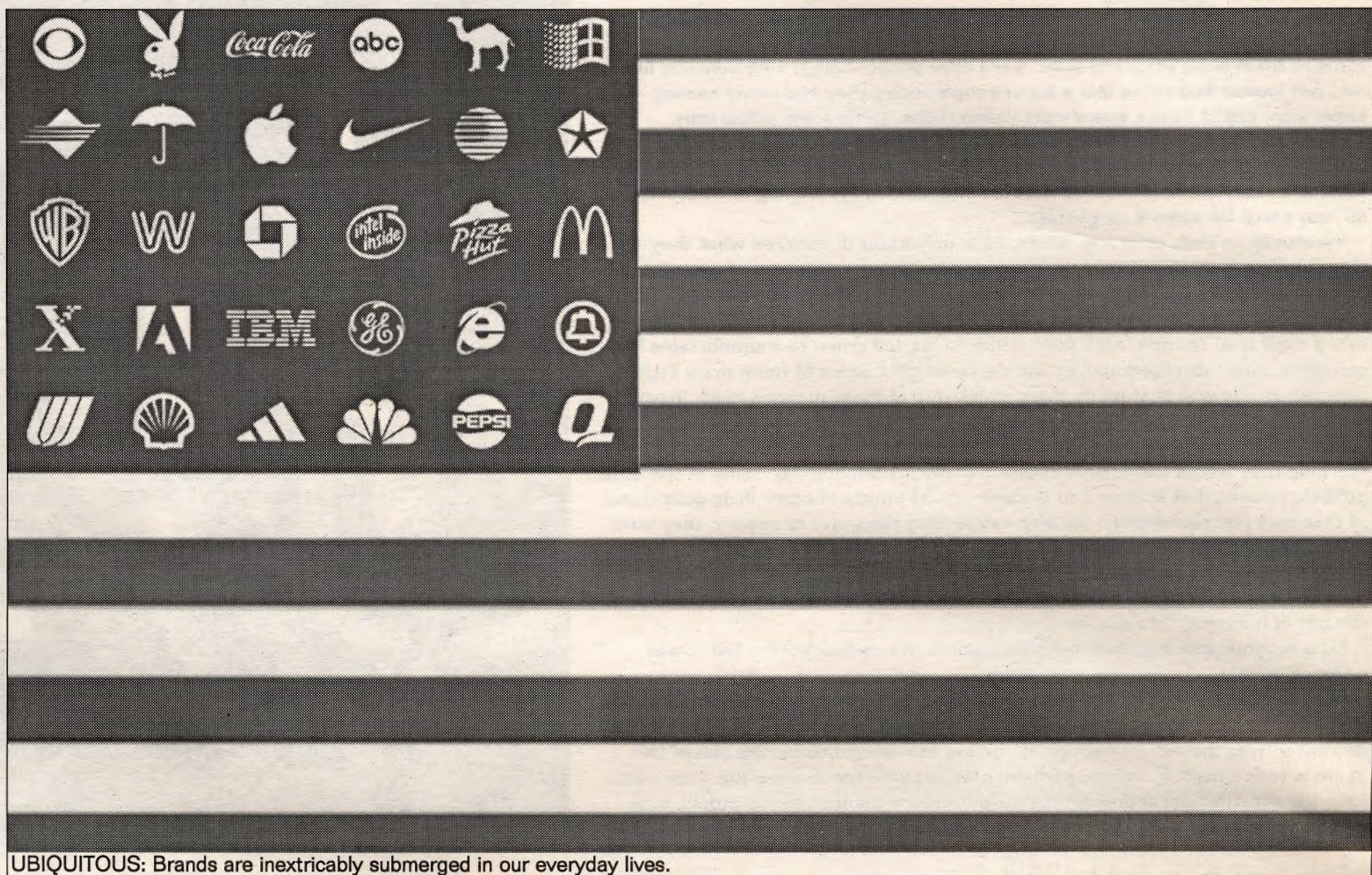
While wearing T-shirts that blatantly mocked big brands may have appeared too anti-capitalistic and too individualistic in the past, these days the McDonalduesque 'Moo: make every day a cow's last' T-shirts have become as common as Mr Price's cutesy 'Miss. Behave' Tees. What could we expect?

In the end, every statement and form of rebellion becomes popularised to the point where it negates its own philosophy. Punk rock, if nothing else, is one example of this. But the trend of the anti-brand-T makes us wonder just how responsible evil American conglomerates are for market-flooding their brands. After all, there was no mammoth Nike or Adidas behind the flood of the anti-T trend.

Are we giving the capitalist bastards too much credit? Perhaps consumers are the real people to blame for the axis of brand name evil: McDonalds, Coca-Cola and Nike. People — or should we say the masses — always have been and always will be suckers for new trends.

Is the need to identify with each other through common cultural practices a basic human instinct? Sounds remarkably like Sociology I.

Whatever the deal is, the fact remains that brands exist because there is a market for them. Think back to the Nike ticks carved into high school desks and the Adidas wearing rock



UBIQUITOUS: Brands are inextricably submerged in our everyday lives.

demigods of today. Not only do we wear the stuff, but we have made it the deity of our age. Alright, so maybe not all of us are brand-whores, as epitomised by 13-year-old boys and/or immature metal and hip hop musicians. (Korn took musical prostitution to new lows with their song 'Adidas'. Yeah sure, all day you dream about sex. Come on people, he doesn't get those hideously customised sneakers for free for no reason).

Most people claim to buy brand names not for the image but because of the quality. Of course,

that unbeatable quality of forced child labour and third-world exploitation...

Clichéd protestations aside, this is a valid argument. Your average 18 to 25-year-old does not wear Nike sneakers and Quicksilver to pay homage to the gods of American capitalism, but typically because it's the best option available — especially in terms of style.

Democracy opens the market of a country up to foreign competitors, i.e. American conglomerates, with the bulk of the profits made returning to

America. Theorists (conspiracy and otherwise) argue that the actual use of physical force really constitutes the second phase of this plan, the first being the flood of existing democracies with corporations and their branded products.

The first phase has largely succeeded. The question is: will we allow it to continue?

If you really want to do something about the war, maybe you should put down that can of Coca-Cola and start buying some real clothing instead. ■

## Hansie's ghost not yet exorcised

by Aarti Srijeayakumar

It has been almost a year since Hansie Cronje's sudden death and yet his ghost is still relentlessly resurrected. The 'Hansie saga' continued this year with Jonty Rhodes and Allan Donald hoping to dedicate the 2003 ICC Cricket World Cup to ex-South African captain, Hansie Cronje.

Lately, it seems that Cronje's name has been popping up more and more in the cricketing sphere. Herschelle Gibbs first mentioned it with his criticism of Shaun Pollock, by comparing him with Cronje.

Following this was the revelation of Cronje's 70 secret, illegal bank accounts and an affidavit handed to the Office of the Public Protector alleging that the air crash that killed Cronje might not have happened if the Airport Company South Africa "had properly maintained its Instrument Landing System at George Airport."

Why does Cronje's name keep cropping up in the media's viewfinder, even after his tragic death on 1 June 2002? According to Professor Alwyn Moerdyk, a Psychology lecturer here at Rhodes, Cronje is like Achilles of Greek myth, who was invincible except for his one heel. It seems that Cronje's one fault was his greed.

**"It seems that Cronje's one fault was his greed."**

In the *Sunday Times*, Colin Bryden wrote: "The tragedy of Hansie Cronje is that one of South Africa's most highly paid young men appears to have sold his cricketing soul for what, in his terms amounted to no more than a few pieces of silver."

For Cronje, the R100 000 'profit' he made from the deal with his bookies was no more than one month's earnings.

Moerdyk thinks that one of the causes for Cronje's downfall was the enormous pressure of his profession. It left him caught up in circumstances that he could not handle.

Irene Bronner, a second year BA student, commented that the sudden death of a figure that is larger than life seems impossible. "Their lives are cut short and

for people to understand, they carry on talking about them for a long time afterwards. It keeps them alive in some weird sense, like Princess Di. It is disturbing to be reminded of the mortality of your hero or heroine."

It was further reported that Cronje's lawyers struck a deal with the authorities: in exchange for an assurance that Cronje would not face criminal charges in South Africa, he would make a full disclosure of his involvement in the alleged match-fixing.

Judge King, who headed the Commission of Enquiry into allegations of corruption amongst South African cricketers, handed a final report on the investigation to President Mbeki in June 2001.

This report proclaimed that Cronje was to be banned from cricket for life. In the *Sunday Times*, Judge King commented that the commission had "achieved its primary objective of uncovering the wrongful conducts of certain individuals, thereby alerting and activating the governors of the game". Cronje is never out of the limelight however, and reasons for this have been canvassed amongst students. One student, who declined to be named, believes that Cronje should be exposed for the crook that he was.

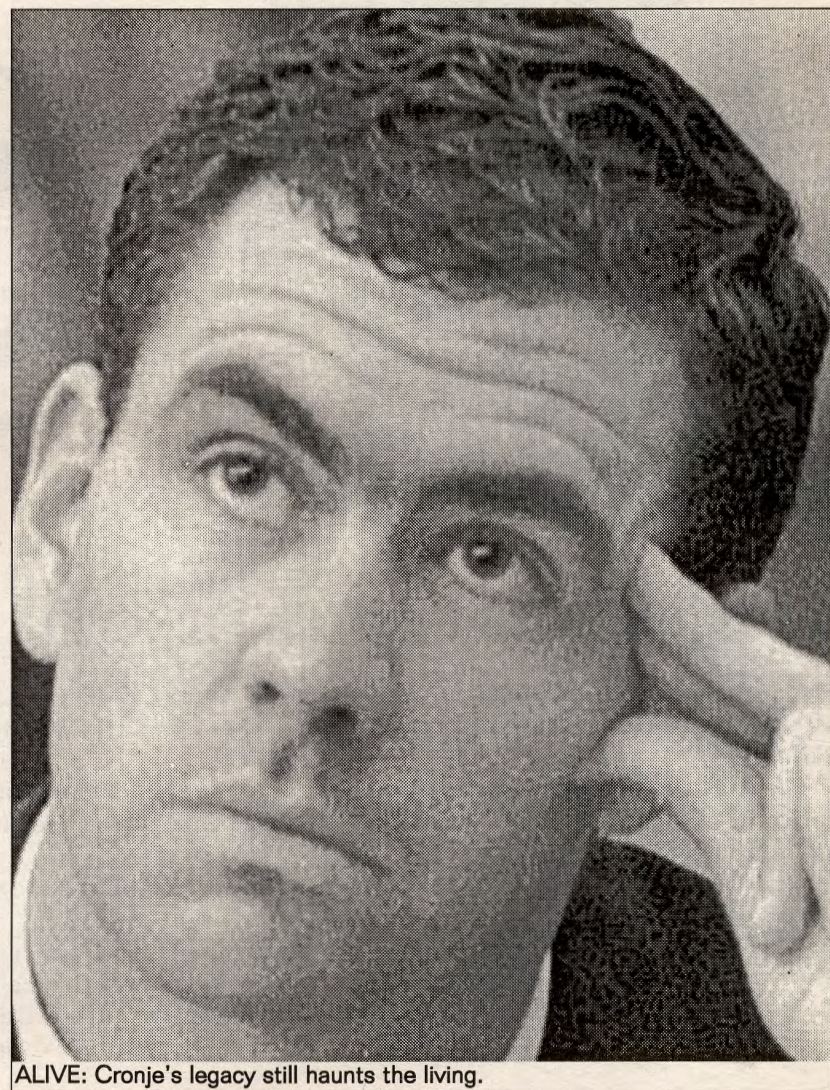
"He lied to the nation and now that he is dead, it doesn't mean that we should all forgive him."

Kady Govender, first year BPharm, said that she just wants to see Hansie allowed to rest in peace.

Rhodes cricket fans are still divided with regards to Cronje's guilt. This is reflected in the findings of the King Commission as well as in the opinions of students.

Many feel that they no longer want to be present at the carnival of Cronje's perpetually revolving coffin, yet they are gripped by the continually unfolding saga.

Maybe it is about time Cronje's ghost was finally exorcised? ■



ALIVE: Cronje's legacy still haunts the living.

# What do you want to read?

The results from a survey that *Activate* ran at the end of last term.

## Positive comments from our readers

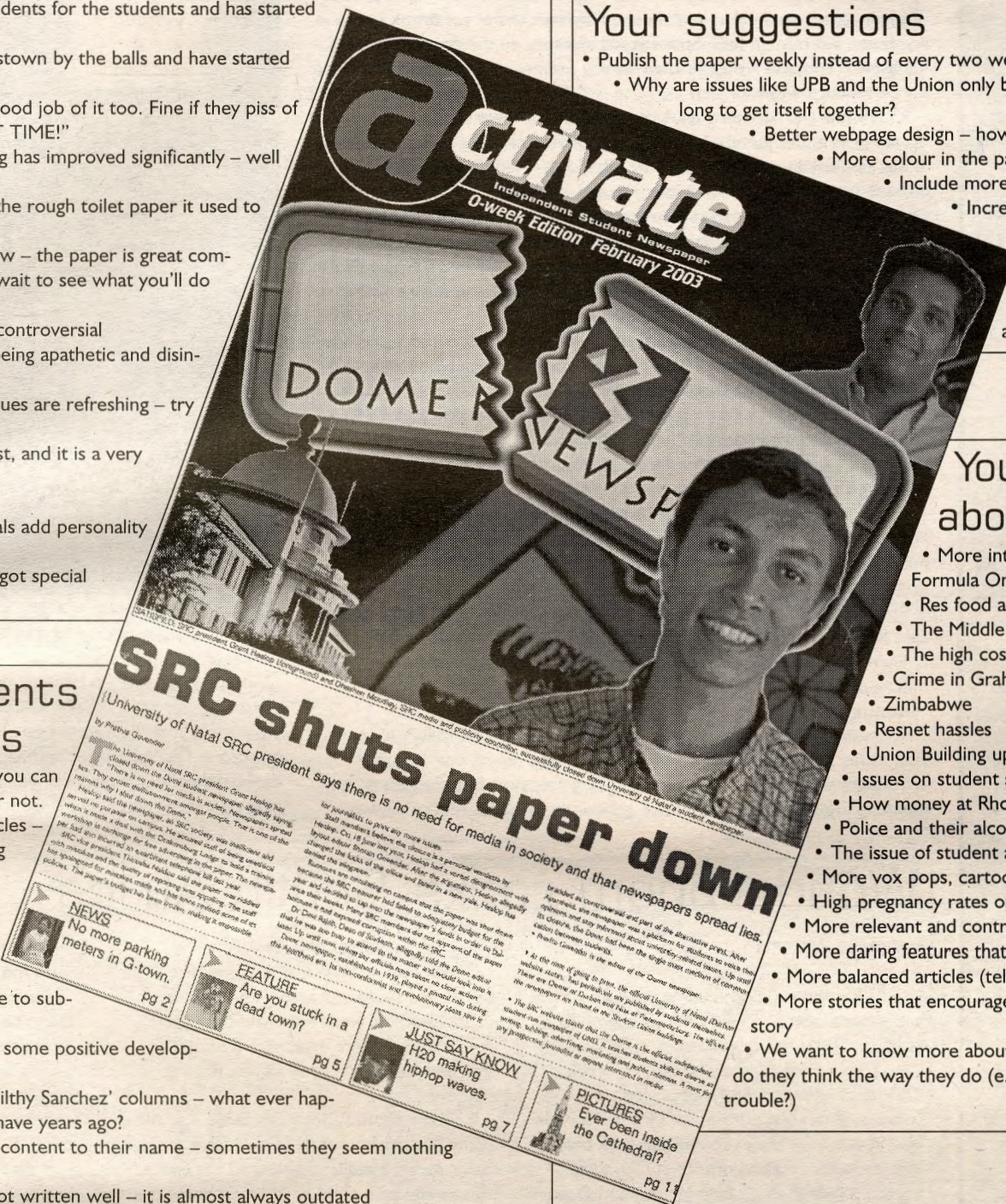
- It's a student newspaper – by the students for the students and has started dealing with relevant student issues
- This year they have gripped Grahamstown by the balls and have started reporting on controversial stuff
- They ask questions and are doing a good job of it too. Fine if they piss off people but rightfully so – "IT'S ABOUT TIME!"
- The standard of writing and reporting has improved significantly – well done!
- It has become bold – it is no longer the rough toilet paper it used to be
- Just keep on the track you are on now – the paper is great compared to what it used to be, so I can't wait to see what you'll do with it in the future
- It's not afraid to talk about anything controversial
- It challenges the notion of students being apathetic and disinterested
- The in-depth articles on pertinent issues are refreshing – try and make the whole paper like that.
- Design is much better than in the past, and it is a very attractive paper
- Stories are short and to the point
- The bitchy-moaning columns/editorials add personality to the paper
- Arts and Culture and Sport columns got special mention from readers

## Your suggestions

- Publish the paper weekly instead of every two weeks
  - Why are issues like UPB and the Union only being touched on now? Why has *Activate* taken so long to get itself together?
- Better webpage design – how about using Flash or Shockwave/Dreamweaver?
- More colour in the paper
  - Include more greater-Grahamstown based stories
  - Increase your advertising and circulation on campus
- Articles should show more critical thinking and not airy-fairy (badly written) journalism that really does not affect anyone
- Put more copies in relevant areas e.g. Kaif, library and Spar

## Negative comments from our readers

- Some articles are badly written and you can usually tell when a first year wrote it or not.
- It has cut down on sub-standard articles – but still needs to concentrate on adding more meat to them
- Articles on Zimbabwe are not well written and do not always tell the whole truth
- I dislike the editorial monopoly of content – other students should be able to submit articles, not just staff members
- Too many negative stories – let's see some positive developments on campus as well
- We miss 'Bite me Spice' and 'Duke Filthy Sanchez' columns – what ever happened to the horoscopes you used to have years ago?
- The columns seem poorly related in content to their name – sometimes they seem nothing better than arb brain vomit.
- The sports section is pointless and not written well – it is almost always outdated
- It's such a mission to read – there is just too much content
- Arts and Culture section is arbitrary and not detailed enough
- Non-student based stories (e.g. Arts and Culture and African Affairs) are irrelevant to students
- Sometimes facts are wrong and sometimes only one side of the story is given in articles



## You want to read about...

- More international sport coverage e.g. World Cup rugby and Formula One
- Res food and the meal refund issue
- The Middle East saga
- The high cost of text books and what is happening with UPB
- Crime in Grahamstown and in digs
- Zimbabwe
- Resnet hassles
- Union Building updates
- Issues on student safety
- How money at Rhodes is spent by the University
- Police and their alcohol clamp down
- The issue of student apathy
- More vox pops, cartoons and letters
- High pregnancy rates on campus, which the university tries to hide
- More relevant and controversial opinion pieces
- More daring features that are relevant to students
- More balanced articles (tell both sides of the story)
- More stories that encourage students to take positive action e.g. the Asisipho story
- We want to know more about who is on the staff – who are they exactly and why do they think the way they do (e.g. why is the editor so hell-bent on getting into trouble?)

## Marketing

- This is the biggest problem area of the paper, with almost all surveys suggesting more awareness on campus.
- A solution – posters will be put up on campus a few days before editions are released. Notices will be relayed on Rhodes Music Radio to notify listeners when editions are coming out and where one can pick up a copy.

## Speak to us!

We realise that the surveys conducted so far represent only a small section of campus. More surveys are being done each term. If you want to make a comment or suggestion, email [g01m0259@campus.ru.ac.za](mailto:g01m0259@campus.ru.ac.za)

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<http://activate.soc.ru.ac.za>

Once again, it is a new term with new opportunities and more new faces – or at least new hairdos! I suffered a variety of heart attacks when I discovered that some of my friends had gone from brunette to blonde (as blondes do have more fun, of course). Even in the strangest case, my most ditsy blonde friend went brunette – exam stress it must be!

As this is exam term, I was hoping to get a lot of relaxation these past holidays. Being a Joburg girl and an only daughter, this naturally did not happen. For example, just after I got off the bus from a 14-hour trip, I had to prepare for three continuous aerobic classes (namely pilates, ab-blaster and the fit ball). This enthusiasm resulted in me waking up every morning at the crack of dawn to be at classes by six o'clock.

The rest of the day would then be spent shopping and having salads with mom. Considering all the exercise and healthy eating during our so-called extended holiday, one would think I would have a new lease on life and not drink my poor liver away again.

However, there must be a curse on the second term, because everything seems extra stressful and all this term's essays have been conveniently located closer to my exams. As if the term couldn't start any worse, I discovered that the res I was temporarily staying in decided that my name wasn't on the list, and I was forced to mission with this over-tired body (that 14-hour bus trip again) to find out what the problem was. Thank goodness it was a public holiday and there was no one to help me – I was allowed into the res despite my apparent illegality. Then, if that wasn't bad enough, I wasn't even allowed into my own res until the next day before 2pm! This is ridiculous, considering that Joburg buses only arrive in the morning. Obviously, I had unnecessary stress and needed some drinking games.

Nothing better than public holidays to have a drinking binge, particularly at Rhodes University, as we are all in this dreaded exam term together. These, dear first years, are your first exams and no doubt you are probably more freaked out about them than the rest of us (as you do not know what to expect). You will note that one half of varsity is already way into their studies, and the other half is in denial by partying every day – right through swot week and even the night before exams.

I must unfortunately admit that I am a part of the second half, even though it is obviously not the smartest option. This obsessive compulsion to drown my sorrows in alcohol and friends is easily partnered with procrastination.

Procrastination is my favourite hobby as it does involve plenty of TV, arb conversations and yes, gym. But I will defeat this disease even if it's just by attending those dreaded English lectures and actually saying no to the Rat.

On a lighter note, there is one really brilliant point to the second term – it is one term closer to third term which means party, mayhem and purple hair!



**Off Centre**

Natalie Oram – Arts & Culture Editor

...one half of varsity is already way into their studies... the other half is in denial



# Alles en nog wat by dié fees

by Dawie Smit

*Sorry Zimbos, this story is in Afrikaans. It's basically about a festival in Oudtshoorn (near George) called the KKNK. It's well worth it to go check it out if you are in the area.*

In die hartjie van die Klein Karoo, skuins van George en oor die Outeniqua pas, lê 'n magical klein dorp. Oudtshoorn ontpop jaarliks in 'n kulturele mekka, met alles van high-art teater tot dronk boere in wyntente. Kortom, 'n fees. Strate word afgesper en die dorpenaars gooi hul harte – en huise – oop vir die teaming millions wat toesak op die Klein Karoo Nasionale Kunstefees.

KKNK mik om Afrikaans en Afrikaanse kultuur lewendig te hou, maar dis nie te sê ander kulture kan nie aanklank vind nie. Intendeel – as jy ooit 'n blik op Afrikanerdom per se wou gehad het – van die kómmen kitch-liefhebber tot die verskriklike intellektueel – is KKNK die fees vir jou. Genres wat gecovert word sluit in drama, musiek (ernstig en die sogenaamde "nie-ernstige" soort), beeldende kunste asook komedie. Daar is ook 'n kuns- en vlooiemark. Hierdie jaar was daar 'n rekord 839 produksies en 38 kunsuitstallings, genoeg om enige kultuurvraat te versadig. KKNK is voorwaar die grootste kunstefees in die land.

My feesondervinding het bestaan uit nie-ernstige musiek (whatever die feesorganiseerders daarmee bedoel het), komedie, 'n bietjie drama, baie bier, Klippiers en hier en daar 'n paar Afrikaanse bokkies. Bands soos Karin Zoid van Afrikaners is Plesierig-faam, Valiant Swart, Beeskraal en DNA Strings het opgetree op verskillend verhoë (daar was 5, elkeen met 'n dedicated biertent) asook in hulle eie vertonings.

## Komedie

Ek het my gat afgelag vir die Afrikaanse komedie Joe Barber, met David Isaacs en Oscar Peterson. Hul blik op 'n mans haarsalon op die Cape Flats, met staaltjies en skinner oor hulself en kliënte, het verseker dat die 2-uur lange performance verbygevlug het.

BroekBrein met Eric Nobbs was ook 'n hoogtepunt. Die hoofkarakter is alles kwyt – sy vrou, sy huis en sy geld – omdat hy sy hele lewe lank met sy klein koppie dink. Om die kersie op die koek te sit beleef hy nog 'n midlife crisis ook.

## Drama

Swaeldui met Jacobus Venter, onder regie van Gys de Villiers (wat ons later in Rock Art raakgedrink het) is 'n roerende drama oor 'n sosiaal wanaangepaste jong man, en sy verhouding met sy duiwe. By gebrek aan menslike interaksie, speel sy duiwe gehoor vir sy issues met sy pa wat



TIPIES: Twee 'boere' wat lekker kuier in 'n biertent by die KKNK.

hom nie verstaan het nie, sy bokkie wat hom ignoreer en die neo-nazi Afrikaner wat hom uitbuit.

Triomf, gebaseer op Marlene van Niekerk se boek, is 'n verstommende venster op die agterlike mentaliteit van white trash Afrikaners, en die gevare van 'n te klein gene-pool. Hulle leef op Klippiers en Coke; witbrood en polony. Dis 'n hartseer verhaal, maar met tye kan mens net lag van dankbaarheid dat jy nie so is nie. Tog verlaat mens die teater met 'n nagging gevoel dat dit dalk te close to home was...

## Wonderboom rocks South Africa

by Jenna Williams

Local music talent is on the rise in South Africa and Wonderboom's latest offering is no exception. Their first full length album, 'Tell Someone Who Cares', was recently released at Rock Concert 3 in March, and is receiving a positive response from both critics and fans nationwide. Hailed as one of the country's top rock bands, Wonderboom, which consists of Cito (lead vocals), Wade (bass), Matin (guitar) and Danny (drums), is best known for their relentless stage

energy and unforgettable performances.

'Tell Someone Who Cares', promises to be even more successful than its predecessors.

"It's our best work ever, without a doubt," says Martin. "We're most proud of it, it's a good package, it's a good album, it's a good everything."

It seems South Africa's DJs agree – as the album has already received extensive airplay on major national radio stations and has earned high ratings by a number of entertainment magazines and newspapers.

"I think everyone all 'round is quite chuffed with the album," says lead vocalist Cito.

Several singles on the 12-track album promise to be hits, including "Son of a Gun", "Wild Sunshine" and "The Dear Hunter".

The band is currently on a national tour promoting 'Tell Someone Who Cares', and should make a stop in Grahamstown during the third term.

• Visit Wonderboom's website at [www.wonderboom.co.za](http://www.wonderboom.co.za) 'Tell Someone Who Cares' is available in music stores now.

## Surviving dodgy toilets and smelly people at Splashy Fen

by Jacqueline Toulson

Tips for survival at Splashy Fen:

1. **Putting the tent up:** Don't. Take the tent out of the car, struggle with it for a bit, leave it in a heap on the floor and go in search of a kind someone to either help you or let you sleep in their tent (the second one's a bonus because you have the added benefit of a live water bottle).

2. **Using the toilets:** Don't. Unless you have a lot of toilet paper with you, in which case, plaster the toilets with the stuff before attempting to make any ablutions. Or you can do what the smarter ones of us did and cozy up to the bands to get their VIP passes – so that you can use the backstage toilets, which even come with their own toilet paper!

3. **Using the showers:** Be prepared to stand in a two-hour line to get to one of the 12 showers on the farm. Make friends with other smelly people. Take lots of soap and antibacterial creams. Enjoy the shower on the first two days because after that, you either won't be bothered anymore or the water will run out.

4. **Exercise:** You will get plenty! Running between stages, food stands, your tent and

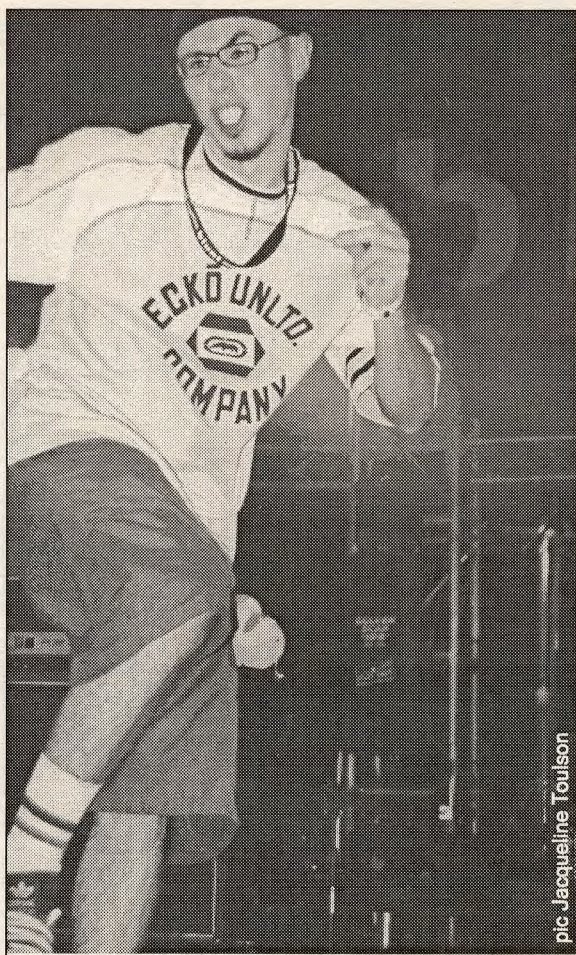
those of friends; laughing like never before at the drunk people stumbling everywhere (at 11:00), Conrad and Jason of hard rock band Marlowe telling you about the last episode of 'Bold and the Beautiful', and dancing your ass off.

5. **Music:** Take the programme with you everywhere – it is your friend! 68 billed bands is a lot to get through in three days so be prepared to sacrifice a couple you may want to see, especially when a band like Squeal does a surprise gig.

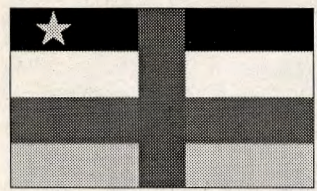
It was generally agreed upon that the best bands were Nemesis, Tweak, Marlowe, the Sons of Trout, Tree63, Even Flow, Rhutz, The Hairy-Legged Lentil Eaters, Syd Kitchen, Madala Kunene, Mikanic, The Blues Brothers (who played their penultimate gig), Shanjeet Teeluk, Guy Buttery and, of course, Squeal. A few disappointments, especially when sound man and Squeal lead-singer Dave Birch tripped over the power cable of the Free Stage, rendering them soundless.

6. **Taking the tent down:** Use an axe. Preferably two. Shove it in the car and begin the long trip home.

7. **Prepare for next year:** because you will undoubtedly want to go back! ■



LOUD: Finkelstiens drummer, Ghomez, at this year's Splashy Fen music festival.



## Egypt tortures its students

by Christoher Scott

Three Cairo University students were abducted by Egyptian security forces early April and taken to SSI headquarters where they were subject to beatings and brutal interrogation. Amr Muhammad Abd al-Atif, Mahmoud Hassan Hassan and Walid Abd al-Razak Faud were arrested by the authorities moments before

they were to attend a demonstration at the Press Syndicate in Cairo.

In violation of Egyptian law, no charges or detention orders have been issued to the students, and lawyers and family members were not permitted to see or talk to the detained. Two of the students have been subsequently released.

Describing his beating during interrogation, one of the students declared "one of them [the police] was holding my arm behind my back so I couldn't protect myself. One hit me in the groin and testicles, one hit me in the stomach, one on my chest and one around the thighs".

The Cairo-based Nadeem Center for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Victims of Violence examined this student and confirmed testicular congestion, contusions and bruises in the back muscles and the muscles on the front of the left thigh. ■



## Sudan on the way to peace

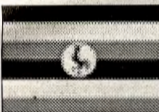
by Khona r. Dlamini

The world's longest civil war might be coming to an end after Sudanese president Omar El-Bashir and Sudan People's liberation Movement/Army leader Dr. John Garang met with Kenyan president Mwai Kibaki to discuss the prospects of a peace process for Sudan.

The civil war, which has lasted more than 20 years and has claimed more than 2 million lives has ravaged the country, particularly in the south which is dry and currently experiencing famine.

The peace process is backed by the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development, an East African body which seeks to achieve regional cooperation and economic integration through promotion of food security, sustainable environmental management, peace, security, intra-regional trade and development of improved communications infrastructure.

The talks have key players hoping that a final resolution could be signed in June. ■



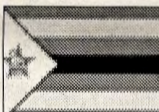
## Ugandan troops pull out of DRC

Uganda has withdrawn 1 650 troops from the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Military officials, including Defence Minister Amama Mbabazi, welcomed the troops who arrived at Entebbe Air Base last Friday. "The mission in Congo was to defeat terrorists wanting to destabilise us. Uganda will not stand idly by while our people are being threatened from the Congo," Mbabazi said.

The soldiers – with their light weapons and munitions – were flown from Bunia's tiny airport, the principal town in Ituri District, aboard four Antonov transport aircraft. Some of them have not seen their families in five years. ■

Story courtesy of [www.allafrica.com](http://www.allafrica.com)



## Rumours of political change

by Magriet Cruywagen

Zimbabwe's president, Robert Mugabe, has called for a constitutional amendment that will allow his Zanu PF party to appoint an interim President. This decision follows intensive local and international pressure on Mugabe to step down, and allow for fresh elections to take place. Emmerson Mnangagwa has been identified as a possible successor for Mugabe.

South Africa's President, Thabo Mbeki, is scheduled to lead a delegation to Harare within the next two weeks comprising Presidents Bakili Muluzi of Malawi, and Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria. The delegation is alleged to be devising a safe exit plan that will safeguard Mugabe from prosecution for human rights violations committed during his 23-year rule.

Contacts within Zanu PF are quoted as saying Mugabe is allegedly concerned about "the future of his family and property, his party's simmering succession problems, a possible power vacuum after his departure and subsequent infighting within Zanu PF". ■



## Violence intensifies

The Zimbabwean government has turned piecemeal repression of opposition activists into a campaign of full-scale systematic violence in recent weeks, taking advantage of the world's focus on the Iraq war. Human rights organisations have documented a startling rise in attacks on supporters of the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC). This violence is seen as a reaction to the MDC's success in holding a two-day national strike on 18 and 19 March. ■



## A brighter future for Lesotho

by Magriet Cruywagen

The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) has forecast good economic growth and a drop in inflation rates during the 2003-04 financial year for Lesotho. The EIU said that the Lesotho Congress' electoral dominance for democracy was likely to continue despite recent "unrest among the old guard".

Lesotho's Prime Minister, Pakalitha Mosisili, is said to have regained control over the party, and a split in the party's ranks is unlikely as such breakaways have previously failed.

Lesotho's economy was wrecked in 1998 by political instability, violence and mutiny, which followed controversial elections. Since then, Lesotho has struggled to restructure its economic situation.

The EIU said that Lesotho's government will strive to develop the economy and reduce poverty, and that these efforts will be met with varying levels of success. Lesotho's poverty reduction and growth facility will be supported by the International Monetary Fund and will seek sustained economic growth and reduced annual average inflation.

Greater economic activity in South Africa will also be to the benefit of the economic situation in Lesotho, as South Africa is one of their most important export markets.

The EIU noted that a realistic growth estimate for Lesotho for 2003-04 is 4%. ■



## Mugabe is not stepping down – Govt

Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe does not intend to leave office anytime before his current term ends in 2008, the Zimbabwean government has said.

"President Robert Mugabe has not indicated a wish to leave office now, or at any other time before the expiry of his term," said a statement from the information and publicity department in Mugabe's office.

Mugabe, who has been in power in the southern African country for 23 years since independence from Britain in 1980, has hinted that he may be nearing retirement.

In an interview with Zimbabwean state television on 21 April, 79-year-old Mugabe indicated that he was "getting to a stage" when retirement might be on the cards.

However, the information department said all Mugabe was trying to do was stir national debate on a variety of issues.

"All the President did in the recent interview...was to invite national debate on a range of national questions, including that of succession," said the statement.

There has been mounting speculation in recent months that several officials within the ruling Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front (Zanu PF) party were jostling for positions should Mugabe step down. ■

Story courtesy [www.mg.co.za](http://www.mg.co.za)

The astonishing world of herbal supplements has recently fluttered into my consciousness like a seductive vegan angel. I find myself wandering around health shops and chemists in a state of awe and near delirium. Herb fetishism! I'd never considered such a thing, before. Ginko Biloba, Spirulina, Ginseng, Horny Goat Weed – the names swirl through the air like the spray of a Hogsback waterfall. Such possibility resides here; such immense possibility. There are herbal supplements for memory, for stress, for flu, for weight, for sexual potency and for depression. But why stop here? Why not herbal supplements for love, for peace, for intelligence, for justice, for God? And is the time not nigh, when we will be able to cure death with a herbal supplement?

I see in my mind great markets stretching across the Eastern Cape, selling herbal supplements for every facet of human lack. If your lover runs off with your best friend, you will be able to find some kindly-old bearded Buddhist with exactly the right proportion of kelp and guarana to heal the splitting wound in your chest. If your cat gets run over, a type of seaweed imported from Micronesia will disintegrate all memory of Ginger Biscuit into a...well...metaphorical ginger biscuit. If your life suddenly loses all meaning, then a slow, dissolving dose of vitamin B12 mixed with Camel Thorn will disintegrate all existential anxiety into a sunbeam.

"Ah," you may say, "Stupid man at the other side of the page – but without suffering where would good art come? Do you think Dostoevsky would have given us *Crime and Punishment* if he were getting all his vitamins and minerals? What about politics? Do you not think that herbal supplements will merely replace religion as the opiate of the masses? And justice? Have you not read Foucault? If herbal supplements replace justice, then herbal supplements will merely become a function of power. The discourse of herbal supplements will merely become the disciplinary mode of the next episteme. What type of hell are you proposing here?"

To this I reply: we will have herbal supplements to replace the lack of good art! We will have herbal supplements to heal boredom! We will have herbal supplements to placate class warfare. And who cares if herbal supplements become the next mode of disciplinary power? Who wouldn't want to be disciplined into being passionate, intelligent and as sexually potent as a horny nuclear bomb?

"But what about variety here?" you might object, "Are you proposing a world in which everyone is equal in their capacities and qualities? Are you proposing a fascist nightmare of conformism?"

No! I say. There will be infinite difference and nuance in such a society. It's just that we will be able to choose those differences for ourselves. The fundamental failure of capitalism – that of human limitation – will be replaced by herbal supplements!

"Ah," you may say, "And will there be herbal supplements to quell the overwhelming feeling of nausea I get after having wasted five minutes of my life reading such a stupid column?" Yes. That too.

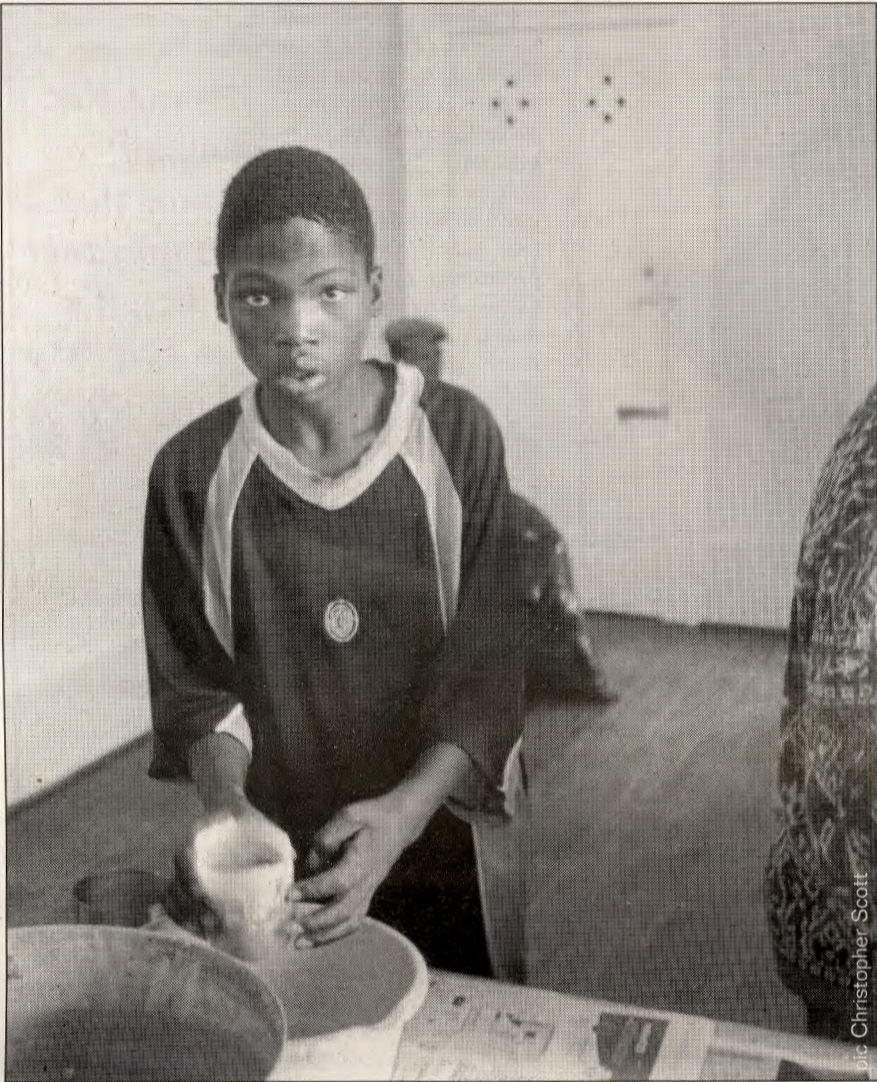


## Dystopian Diaries

Matt Wilhelm-Solomon

# Thank you for caring

The City Hall soup kitchen, run by the Grahamstown Feeding Association, thanks all who generously donated old clothes and food last term. A collection box is still in the SRC office and donations are still welcome.



# Gearing up for Founder's Challenge

The Founder's Challenge

by Nic Haralambous

Approximately 40km of pure and unbridled athleticism, stamina, pain, tolerance, chivalrous conduct and the will to win are all the ingredients needed to create the excitement of the Founder's Challenge.

On 11 May, 23 teams from all over Grahamstown will meet on the Kaif Lawns, outside the Student Union, to accept the Challenge laid down by the gentlemen of Founder's Hall. The teams will have to complete a relay race made up of five endurance events against a formidable field to lift the prestigious Founder's Challenge Trophy - currently held by Kimberly Hall.

The first leg of the Challenge is an orienteering event. Five checkpoints are situated around a five-kilometre course. Orienteers will be expected to manoeuvre their way around the course with the intent of minimising their travel time and distance. Once the course has been completed, the orienteers will enter a transition area on the Kaif Lawns where the Challenge will be passed on to the cyclists.

The cyclists will have to complete a gruelling 18-kilometre route, which moves steadily upward for the majority of the leg before finally descending towards Jameson Dam. From here, the canoeists will continue the Challenge and begin a five-kilometre route that includes a brief but tricky portage. This part of the race could make or break a number of teams, as it is a tricky discipline to get the hang of. With this in mind, the Rhodes University Canoe Club has run training programs for any canoeists taking part in the Challenge. Team captains and spectators will follow this leg of the race keenly, as a tipped canoe could be disastrous.

The swimmers will be greeted by icy water as they begin leg four. They will have to complete a 1 500m course before

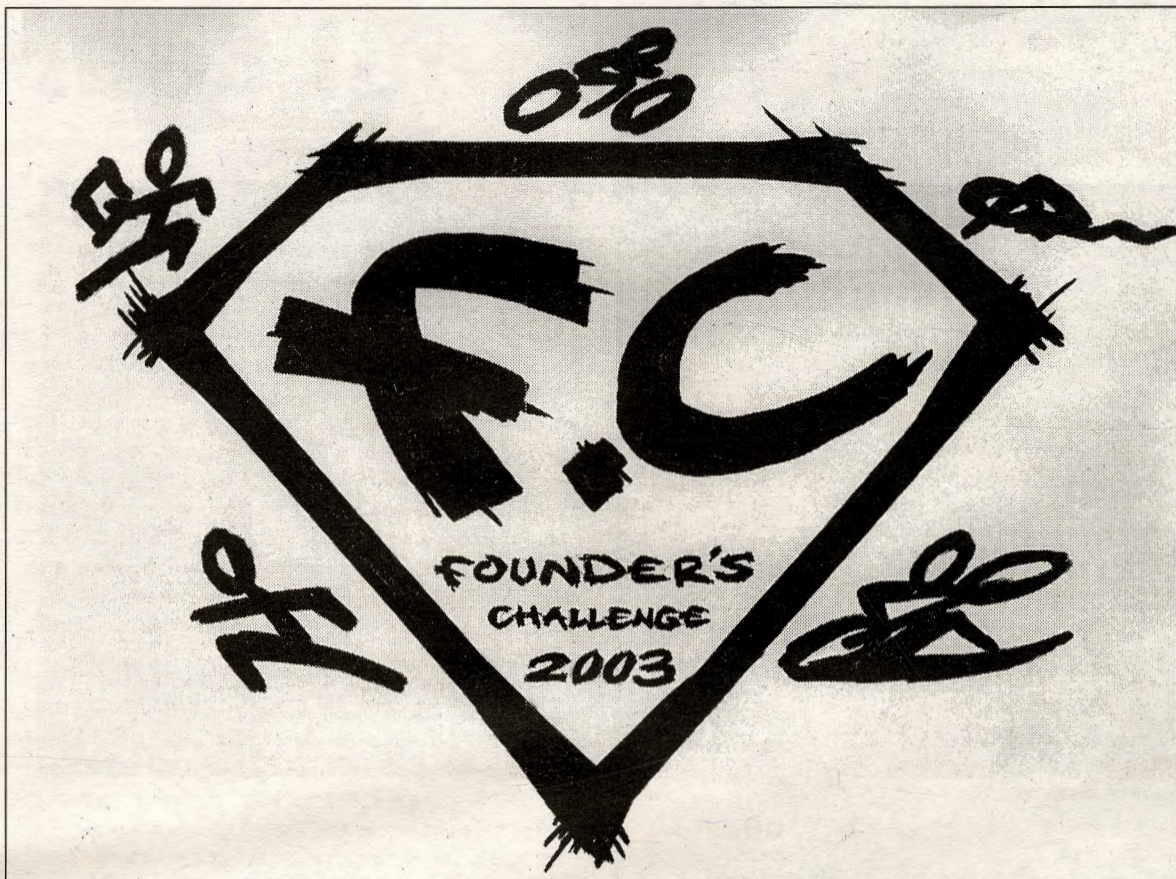
their final teammate begins the home stretch of the Challenge. The runners will tackle a course of just over 12 kilometres that winds slowly back towards Grahamstown. This leg will be the most formidable of the Challenge, but the atmosphere at the finish will make the pain worth it in the end.

Once the first few teams have completed the main section of Founder's Challenge, the Fun Run will begin. This run will take place over a five-kilometre course and prizes will be awarded to athletes who show phenomenal enthusiasm in their finishing style! The photojournalism and TV journalism students will be out in force on race day so students are encouraged to come dressed to make headlines! This event adds a touch of flavour to the Challenge, and promises to be both exciting and competitive, or alternatively, just a chance to let off some steam.

Last year, the Challenge was an Inter-Hall event. This year, the field is even more daunting and has been extended to include teams ranging from the military and Joza to the local schools of Grahamstown. The organisers have hinted that the Challenge could be extended to include universities throughout South Africa in the coming years, and this certainly is an exciting prospect.

The Challenge is not an event which funds itself: much work and preparation is put in by the lads of Founder's Hall, as well as other students, to gain support from the local community in terms of financial backing. Last year, the Challenge received amazing support from local businesses and this year follows much of the same trend.

Sunday, 11 May promises to provide a unique experience that brings the people of Grahamstown together for one day, uniting them in a common goal - to have fun and to see the amazing potential and passion of our unique town through a sporting event of major proportions!



## Red Bull gives you wheels!

On Sunday 14 September, starting at 11:00, the stretch of road on Jan Smuts Avenue, adjacent to the Johannesburg Zoo, will be the setting for the first Red Bull Box Cart Race.

The Red Bull Box Cart Race is set to have all the excitement and crowd-drawing appeal of Grand Prix racing on a micro scale...a 'petit prix' so to speak! And without the ear-piercing noise of the engines, the drivers will have only the deafening roar of the crowds to contend with.

A specially-built course is currently being designed which will test contestants' stamina, speed and skills. But it's about more than just speed and performance - vehicles will also be judged on their creativity: the more inventive and original, the better! With thousands expected to come along and check out the action, it's an opportunity for all prospective designers to show off their artistic skills. Entries will be judged on creativity, speed and performance, and combining all three to produce the winning formula is the real challenge.

So if you think you've got what it takes to build and race your own, non-motorised vehicle, then Red Bull is eagerly awaiting your ideas and entries. You don't need a driving licence!

There are some fantastic prizes up for grabs, including a rare opportunity to experience the thrill of bob-sledding for a team of four at the Olympic track in Austria! Should the team have experienced enough speed racing for the season, there is the option to take the equivalent in cash: R45 000.

Celebrity presenters will also entertain the crowds with live running commentary of the action.

If you're interested and would like an information pack, call 0860 700 600 or visit our website at [www.redbullboxcart-race.co.za](http://www.redbullboxcart-race.co.za)

### Activate/Grocott's Mail charity drive

The Activate/Grocott's Mail food drive will run from Saturday 10 May to Friday 16 May. Please donate non-perishable food and/or old clothes in the trolley that will be outside the entrance to SuperSpar. All donations will go to the Eluxolweni Children's Home in Grahamstown. Thank you in advance!

Rhodes Film Club presents:  
Best of the Mouse House -  
animated films of Walt Disney  
every Saturday at 14:15 in Arts  
Major.

10 May:  
Fantasia 2000

17 May:  
Lady & the  
Tramp

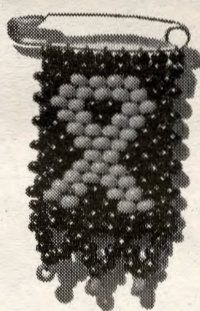
24 May:  
Saludos  
Amigos &  
Three  
Caballeros

31 May:  
Bambi

7 June:  
Sleeping  
Beauty

14 June: The Jungle Book

• info - [I.vermeulen@ru.ac.za](mailto:I.vermeulen@ru.ac.za)



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news>features>analysis>links>  
and more.

InterActivate  
Online Independent Student Newspaper

Welcome back everyone, by now I'm sure that you're all back in the swing of things for second term and gearing up for the exams that start in a little over a month's time! Sorry to startle you, but there is still time to get in some serious sport and recreation before it comes down to the hard yards (you will know when the pressure is starting to tell when you see all the accounts students smashing their abacuses in frustration). The most important fixture for this term has got to be the Founders Challenge on Sunday. Last year's Challenge was a huge success and credit must go to the Founders Challenge committee (made up entirely of students) for their consummate dedication and commitment.

As Nic Haralambous' story will tell you, it is an event that you simply cannot afford to miss, with the Challenge promising to be even bigger, better and more boisterous than last year. I hope to see you all at the start of the Fun Run as well – time to burn off some of that mid-term madness and win cool prizes while doing so!

As for what else you can look forward to this term, I can tell you that there are some real humdingers in the offing.

This Friday and Saturday, the Men and Women's Hockey First XI's travel to the MTN stadium to take on UPE in the annual University derby match, so if any of you happen to be in Port Elizabeth, go and give them some true Rhodian support! The fly-fishing club, which has come on in leaps and bounds since their inception last year, has room for all levels of fisherman, from the virgin caster to the most experienced river-wader, and have some exciting competitions for both bass and rainbow trout lined up for the remaining weekends of term. The mountain club also has several excursions planned, including the Three Sisters horse trail this weekend. Hopefully our rugby 'manne' will progress to the semi-finals of the under 21 league, as these will be taking place on Saturday the 17th followed by the Cup Final the following weekend. These could prove to be vital preparation matches for next term's massive Tri-Varsity confrontation with a UPE side still seething from last year's defeat.

To round off the term before the onset of swot week, if you fancy checking out some true sporting talent then a must-see has got to be the Eastern Cape bouldering competition on 31 May. The event will be held at the climbing wall in Alec Mullins Hall, with Rhodes boasting some of the best climbers in the country, including Paul Brouard, the 2002 Rhodes sportsman of the year and the top climber in the country, and his sister Faye. The climbing club also boasts the talents of Kathy Fourie, last year's National red-pointing champion.

That just about sums up the rest of the term, so enjoy it – work hard and play harder, and let's all keep our fingers crossed that someone out there can salvage some South African pride in the Super 12. That Box Cart Race looks pretty groovy too...



# Rowan's Rambles

Rowan Watt-Pringle – Sports Editor

# Rhodents dominate local tournament

by Nicola Kane

On 26 April, the 'Rhodents' soccer team traveled to Joza to play in the inaugural Makana Freedom Day Tournament, which will continue to run on an annual basis. The competition consists of eight teams, running on a knock out format.

The Rhodents started the competition with high expectations, only to grind out a 1-0 victory in their opening match. Because only one field was available, the team had to wait four hours before the semi-finals. As the proposed game against Maroon 11 was about start, controversy loomed. Arsenal, who had lost to Maroon 11 in the quarterfinals, discovered that illegal players had been fielded, and launched an appeal. Maroon 11, however, were intent on staying. After much argument and discussion, the tournament organisers decided to reschedule the semi-final and final for Monday 28 April.

After Maroon 11's disqualification, the Rhodents faced Arsenal in the semis. In a lackluster start, the Rhodents went down 1-0, but after a strong half time talk, the team returned with vigour and blazed through the opposition, winning the game 4-2. Arsenal then regrouped to participate in the third and fourth play off against Everton. In a hard fought contest Everton came out 2-0 victors.

The final was played under lights on King Field, and quickly became an intense battle. The first half saw numerous shots on target, but no result for either team. The Rhodents once again started the second half with newfound zest, and with 15 minutes left to play eventually found the back of the net. Seven Masters steeled themselves and with just three minutes remaining scored a dramatic equaliser. Their supporters stormed the field and the game looked certain to go into penalties. When despondency might have set in, the Rhodents instead showed huge resilience and won the ball back in midfield, launching their own counter offensive. A majestic cross was swung in from out wide, and striker Bryce Nimako, finishing a superb team move, slotted the resulting layback past the goalkeeper to silence the chants of the opposition fans. Nimako played an invaluable role in the tournament, scoring a hat trick in the semi-final and both goals in the final. The Rhodents will return next year to defend their trophy. ■



HEADS UP: The Rhodes University first team faced Arsenal in the Makana Freedom Day Tournament.

# Briefs

## Bidding mania

South Africa will bid to host both the 2014 Commonwealth Games and the 2020 Olympics – in addition to the 2010 Soccer World Cup, Sports Minister Ngconde Balfour said in parliament recently.

He said the sports ministry had recently hosted a conference on developing a strategy to bid for major international sports events and participants had committed themselves "to prioritise bids to host the 2010 Soccer World Cup, the 2014 Commonwealth Games, and the 2020 Olympic Games".

[www.supersport.co.za](http://www.supersport.co.za)

## Henry player of the year

Arsenal striker Thierry Henry achieved an outstanding double on Friday 2 May when he was named the English Premier League player of the year by the Football Writers' Association.

The French star also won the PFA player of the year award from the Professional Footballers' Association – the player's union – last Sunday. Henry staved off tough competition from prolific Manchester United striker Ruud van Nistelrooy for both prizes.

[www.worldonline.co.za](http://www.worldonline.co.za)

## Eastern Province U21's unbeaten

by Rob Sach

The Eastern Province U21 Hockey men are currently competing in an inter-provincial tournament in Cape Town. The side includes seven Rhodes hockey players. Carl Thomen was named as captain while the other team members are Calvin Trautman, Jeremy Cahill, Dan Kerr, Bryce Kennard, Brett Green and Murray Slater. A controversial pool system left the traditionally strong EP side in the B section. This means the side has to win all their games to gain promotion. With Carl Thomen leading the side, Trautman held the midfield

together and was praised by the National coach, Paul Revington. Brett Green's resolute tackling crushed many attacks with much personal sacrifice, and Bryce Kennard showed his class both in attack and defense. Dan Kerr, the newcomer to the side, showed a lot of potential and will only grow from such experiences. Jeremy Cahill used his electric pace to haunt opposition defenses, scoring a crucial goal against Free State. Murray Slater, the goalkeeper, who was playing his last tournament, showed patches of good form, and his experience under pressure showed when needed most. Eastern Province beat archrivals

Border 3-0 and then Gauteng B 3-1. The side's prolific strikers banged in seven goals past Natal B without conceding, and a hard fought match against Northerns ended in a 1-0 victory. The game against Free State was a nail biter, with EP going down 2-0 in the first five minutes. A brave comeback by EP put them in front 3-2, only to concede in the last five minutes.

The game went to penalty flicks, and Slater made two saves, while the EP flickers all hit the target. At the time of going to print, EP still has to beat Western Province B and Midlands to gain promotion. ■

## Huge bonus at 2003 RWC

Teams in this year's Rugby World Cup will share an \$11 million bonus, while the tournament has adopted the Super 12 bonus points system, organisers announced. The bonus points system will mean that a team scoring four tries, or losing by less than seven points, will gain an extra point. Each team receives a base of \$420 000, which goes up to \$700 000 for quarter-finalists and \$850 000 for semi-finalists.

[www.theage.com.au](http://www.theage.com.au)

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# REVOLUTION NEWS

Independent Official Newsletter of the SRC



## Making Easter more fun for Settler's kids

**A**s the SRC community interaction councillor, I decided it would be more fun to visit the patients at Settlers Hospital. On Saturday 5 April, SRC council members and some students from Allan Webb, Drosty and Kimberley Hall set off to have some fun with the children and the elderly patients in order to cheer them up just before Easter. We gave the children some balloons and Easter Eggs and there were special moments for the little ones as chocolate was smudged all over their tiny faces. I realized that even though this was not much of an expense, it really was the thought that counted the most, as very few of the patients in the hospital have regular visits from their families. I am grateful to all the people who supported me in coming along to just make a difference in someone's life.

When we visited the elderly people's wards, it was saddening to see some twins who had been admitted in Settlers since birth and had been in that one particular ward for 20 years because their mother refused to take care of them after she discovered they were deformed. These boys, although they couldn't speak back to us, nevertheless had great smiles on their faces at the

prospect of visitors.

The communication barrier between the group I went with and certain patients was the main problem we faced, as most of the patients were Xhosa speaking and the group had volunteers who could only speak one language, such as English.

I would suggest that the next community interaction councillor consider going with someone who can at least interpret the languages, as this will make the interaction with the patients more effective.

Lastly, I would like to encourage many other societies on campus and even individuals who would care enough to make a difference in someone's life to pay more visits to the hospital. There are more things that can be done – such as helping to decorate the children's ward with pictures, donating dolls and toys for the children etc. – just to make the old building more lively for the patients and staff living and working there. It is our social responsibility to interact and help our community in whatever way we can and trust me, your visit will definitely make a difference in someone's life. – **COMMUNITY INTERACTION COUNCILLOR NYASHA MASHOZERA**



## No action at SRC Auction

The achievements of the SRC Street Party hopefully would have set a precedent for the next party and those to follow during the term of the current SRC. This, however, was not to be the case, as the Action Auction party was only successful in picking up the award for worst attended SRC event of the year.

So what is the SRC doing to ensure that no forthcoming event takes the place of Action Auction at the bottom of the pile? The following policies have been drawn up from the lessons we have learnt:

1. No more 'multi-purpose' events will be run, as in the case of the last party which saw an auction being run with a party at the same event. This leads to confusion as to what the original theme of the event is. Events will only run with one objective and the entire effort will be dedicated to this. For example, this term's party will just be a colossal party and we will party well!

2. The advertising of events is to be carried out in a more professional manner with this activity being outsourced if is possible. The timing and information content in the marketing of the past party was poor and this needs drastic improvement by the next event.

3. The dates for events are to be considered more carefully. Events are to be modelled around the student's timetable, where possible, as students cannot be expected to model their timetable around SRC events.

To ensure that all above is not just a pen swipe of babble, an entertainment committee has been established to ensure that the aims above are carried out. Some of the members of this committee are Mirriam Goeieman, Brian Van Wyk and Earl Hodges. With all these initiatives underway, it is the SRC's vision to make the Street Gig seem like a garden tea party when compared to the next SRC party that comes to town. -

*Thamsanqua Moyo, Societies' Councillor*

## National Hospice Week

The SRC has teamed up with The Hospice Palliative Care Association (HPCA) to encourage Rhodes to participate in National Hospice Week from 3 to 10 May 2003. The national theme for Hospice week is 'Walk the Extra Mile', emphasizing caring and compassionate support to those in need. Grahamstown Hospice has organised various activities for the month of May including a street collection, a physical walk, our annual knit-in, an open day, a golf day and their GO YELLOW campaign on 9 May 2003. Participants are requested to pay R2 to wear yellow in aid of Hospice. Phone Angela for further info at 046 622-9661.



\*Did you know that at a cocktail party at the Vice-Chancellor's home, Mirriam happened to mention that she is a vegan, which Dr. Motara misheard, and confusedly enquired if she had said 'vagrant'.

\*The family of Andrew Elliot, Drodsky Hall Rep and Media Councillor, started and own the famous Sunshine Juice Company.

## Wellness Corner

### THE SIMPLE RULES OF CONDOMS

1) Check your condom! Make sure it has an SABS stamp of approval. Departmental of Health condoms which say "Not for Sale" are the only ones which are allowed to have the SABS mark on the box and not on each individual condom. All other condoms must have the SABS mark to be reliable.

2) Check the expiry date of the condom (the 'EXP')

3) Never use two condoms at the same time, as the friction between the latex will cause one or both of the condoms to break.

4.) Only put the condom on when the penis is erect. Be sure to put the condom on before there is any exchange of body fluids.

5.) Use water-based products, like plain yoghurt, KY jelly or just saliva for lubrication. Do NOT use oil-based products, Vaseline, baby oil or cooking products for lubrication. Oil-based products will weaken the latex of the condom and cause it to break. -

*Information from SHARC.*

### COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Please feel free to contact us at:

SRC Office

Phone: (046) 622 7122

Fax: (046) 622 4162

E-mail: [council@src.ru.ac.za](mailto:council@src.ru.ac.za)

## So, who is on the SRC and what so they do?

There are 15 councillors on the SRC. There are nine Hall Reps, one Oppidan Rep, and an executive body consisting of five members. These five include the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Academic Councillor. Hall Reps have two portfolios: one as Hall Rep, and one other. Hall Reps and their additional portfolios are as follows:

Kirsty Hunter - Oppidan Rep/Gender and HIV/Aids

Thamsanqua Moyo - Founders Hall Rep/Societies

Thami Sibisi - Allan Webb Hall Rep/Transformation

Nyasha Mashozhera - Hobson Hall Rep/Community Interaction

Matirasa Chasi - Jan Smuts Hall Rep/Residence

Andrew Elliot - Drodsky Hall Rep/Media

Privani Moodley - Oriel Hall Rep/International Affairs

Michael Shama - Kimberley Hall Rep/Sports

Mirriam Goeieman - St. Mary's Hall Rep/Entertainment

Bryan van Wyk - Nelson Mandela Hall Rep/Student Benefits

THE EXECUTIVE:

James Chipunza - President. James is a 5th year LLB student.

Earl Hodges - Vice-President. Earl is a 4th year Bcom student.

Lexi Fincham - Secretary. Lexi is a 3rd year Journalism student.

James Rycroft - Treasurer. James is a 3rd year Law student.

Morgan Botha - Academic Councillor. Morgan is a 2nd year Business Science student.



# ALL ABOUT OPPIDANS

# OPPI.NYON



pics Linda Schonknecht

## It's not just Rhodes with crime issues

**T**he University of Cape Town has denied rumours of a serial rapist amidst growing panic among students, who believe management is not taking their safety seriously.

UCT denies all allegations that cases of student rapes were reported to their campus security unit or at Mowbray or Rondebosch police stations.

This comes after reports that the university's management was not seriously investigating

rumours about a serial rapist on campus. Ofentse Masisi, a member of the student representative council, said the organisation was concerned about management's lack of transparency about crime on campus.

The SRC had asked for some time that statistics of crime on campus be made public, Masisi said. He claimed management never responded to this request.

Masisi said there were many rumours about rapes

on campus but no evidence to support it.

He said the uncertainty was creating panic among students. The silence of Management in this regard has not allayed their fears. Meanwhile, the SRC has appointed a committee to investigate campus security.

*Article previously published in Die Berger on 14 April 2003.*

• e-mail Kirsty with any problems you have at [council@src.ru.ac.za](mailto:council@src.ru.ac.za)

*Oppi.Nyon* is an independent publication and is not affiliated with Activate.

# The really-useful stuff guide

## It's Ball time

The Oppidan Ball will be held on 17 May 2003 at the Graham Hotel. The Ball gets underway at 19:00 (for 19:30). Tickets are only R100 per couple – a bottle of wine is included in this price. Tickets available from the Oppidan Secretary.

## Oppidan benefits

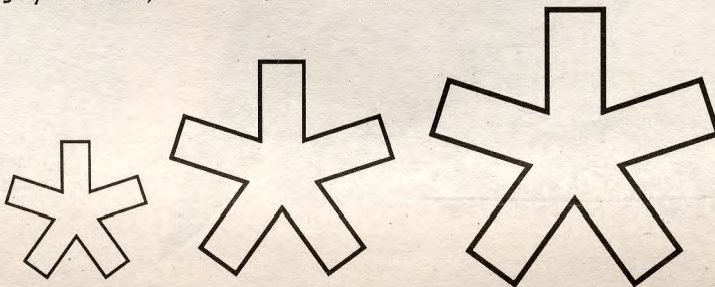
Tea and coffee (10:00 to 11:00 and 13:00 to 14:00) every weekday during term.  
DSTV in the common room (down the hall from the Kaif doors)  
Comprehensive digs lists and lease guides  
Lawn mower  
Vacuum cleaner  
Daily newspaper  
SRC suggestion book is in the common room and can be used to make suggestions or raise oppidan issues that one may have.  
For the moment, the SRC shuttle runs from 8pm to 10.30pm. It costs R5 and leaves every weekday from the main library.

## Contact details

- Oppidan warden – Gordon Barker – 603 8443 (g.barker@ru.ac.za)
- Oppidan secretary – Joy Allcock – 603 8229 (j.v.allcock@ru.ac.za) She works mornings only from 08:30 to 12:45.

## Oppidan committee members:

Charity Ncube (Head student)  
Kirsty Hunter (SRC oppidan representative)  
Chavonne Randall  
Donate DeBruin  
Catherine Smith  
(Committee members organise balls, cheese and wines, sporting events, etc. Anyone interested in joining the committee should see the oppidan secretary Joy Allcock)



## Quick 'n easy recipes

### Stir-fried chicken with peppers

#### Ingredients:

- 1 egg white
- 2 teaspoon cornflour
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 225g chicken breast, skinned, boned and cut into 1cm cubes
- 3 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 2 onions (sliced)
- 3 dried red chillis chopped
- 50g roasted peanuts finely chopped

#### Method:

Lightly whisk the egg white with the cornflour and salt in a bowl. Add the chicken and stir to coat thoroughly. Combine the sauce ingredients in a separate small bowl.

Heat the oil in a frying pan, add the coated chicken and stir-fry for 2–3 minutes until lightly coloured; then remove with a spoon and set aside on a plate.

Add the onions and chillis to the pan, stir-fry for 1–2 minutes, then pile on to a heated serving dish; sprinkle with the chopped onions and serve immediately.

#### Serving ideas:

Serve with fried rice and a bean sprout salad or lightly-cooked French beans  
Note: One can use a pork fillet or frying steak instead of the chicken breast.  
nutes, then cut into quarters and serve with a mixed green salad.



• e-mail your recipes to g01m0259@campus.ru.ac.za

## Crime update

Do you live in one of the hot spots?

Police are concerned with the increase of crime in Grahamstown and have warned students to exercise caution when moving around at night. Captain George Green, Deputy Area Head, said robbery and theft from persons is the most common crime. Cases generally happen when students walk home alone at night or with a friend.

"This is usually after a night out at the bars or night clubs where in most cases they are under the influence of alcohol. In some cases, the students were so drunk that police officers have to open a case on behalf of the victim!" Green said.

### Hot spot areas

Attacks occur regularly on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday nights at around 22:00, 23:00, 02:30 and 04:15. Notorious streets include New Street, Bartholomew Street, Oatlands Road, Somerset Street, Milner Street, Bathurst Street and Hillsvie Street.

### What has been stolen?

Students have been attacked with screwdrivers and knives. Green said in these cases, wallets, cellphones and money has been stolen. In other cases, electrical appliances have been stolen, namely Hi-fis, televisions and video machines. Some digs have had clothes stolen from bedrooms and off washing lines. Car radios and personal property has also been stolen from cars parked on the street.

"Most incidences occur due to negligence," Green said, "Doors to houses are not locked for whatever reasons and students leave expensive equipment and items in the car overnight. In some cases, the windows have not been properly shut. The thieves are smart and there are very few cases where fingerprints are left on the scene."

### What has been recovered?

This year, 18 cases were reported to the police. Five arrests have been made. A total of R15 000 worth of property has been recovered – some of which has not been claimed by students. Items not retrieved within a certain period are claimed by the police. Clearance auctions are held every month at the police station on Beaufort Street for the stolen goods recovered. For information on when these auctions take place, call Captain George Green at 046-603 9111.

• Ideas, suggestions or topics you would like discussed (no matter how controversial) can be emailed to the editor on g01m0259@campus.ru.ac.za